

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1034.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1847.

PRICE
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Stamped Edition, 5s.

For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are released in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 25fr. or 11. 2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

KINGS COLLEGE, LONDON.—The Situation of CURATOR to the MUSEUMS of ANATOMY and NATURAL HISTORY being VACANT, Candidates are requested to send in testimonials of character and ability to the Secretary, before Four o'clock on Saturday, Sept. 4, 1847. All candidates may be known on application at the Secretary's office. August 18, 1847. J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The FACULTY of MEDICINE.—Session 1847-48.—The CLASSES will COMMENCE on the 1st of October. CLASSES in the order in which Lectures are delivered during the day:—
MEDICINE, Principles and Practice of—Professor Williams, M.D.
ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY—Professor Sharpey, M.D.
CHEMISTRY—Professor Graham.
ANATOMY—Professor Quain.
COMPARATIVE ANATOMY—Professor Grant, M.D.
NATURAL MEDICINE and THERAPEUTICS—Professor Thompson, M.D.
NATURAL MEDICINE—Professor Murphy, M.D.
DENTAL SURGERY—Lectures by Mr. Durand George.
SUGGERY—Professor Cooper, and Mr. Liston, Professor of Clinical Surgery.
PRACTICAL ANATOMY—The Pupils will be directed in their studies during several hours daily by Mr. Ellis and Mr. Marshall, under the superintendence of Mr. Quain and Dr. Sharpey.
ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY—Professor Fownes, p.m., 4 p.m.
The following subjects will be taught during the summer term:—
BRANY—Dr. Lindley.
NATURAL HISTORY—Dr. Murphy.
PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY—Dr. Walshe.
COMPARATIVE ANATOMY and ZOOLOGY (Elementary) —Professor Grant.
PRACTICAL MEDICINE—Dr. Thompson.
PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY—Mr. Fownes.
Dr. Ballou's Class of Experimental studies of any Pupils desiring to attend the Faculty of Medicine, who may desire to assist.

Hospital Practice daily throughout the year:—
Physicians—Dr. Williams, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Walshe.
Assistant Physicians—Dr. Garrod, Dr. Parkes.
Consulting Physician—Dr. Murphy.
Operating Surgeon—Mr. Cooper.
Surgeon—Mr. Liston.
Assistant Surgeon—Mr. Morton.
Dental Surgeon—Mr. Durand George.
General Clinical Lectures—by Dr. Williams and Dr. Thompson, and also by Dr. Walshe, Professor of Clinical Medicine, whose special duty it is to train the Pupils in the practical study of disease at the bedside during the visits, and also by a series of lectures and examinations on the physical phenomena and diagnosis of disease, to classes consisting of a limited number, and meeting in separate hours.
Clinical Lectures—Mr. Liston, Mr. Quain.
Prospectus may be obtained at the office of the College.
RESIDENCE OF STUDENTS.—Several of the Professors, and some of the Masters of the Junior School, receive Students to reside with them; and in the office of the College there is kept a register of parties unconnected with the College who receive boarders into their families; among these are several medical gentlemen. The register will afford information as to terms and other particulars.
ROBERT LISTON, Dean of the Faculty.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

August 1847.
The Lectures to the Classes of the Faculty of Arts commence on the 13th of October.
The Junior School opens on the 23rd of September.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The FACULTY of ARTS and LAWS.—Session 1847-48.—The Session will COMMENCE on WEDNESDAY, October 13th, when Professor NEWMAN will deliver an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, at 5 o'clock precisely.

CLASSES.
LATIN—Professor Newman.
GREEK—Professor Malden, A.M.
HEBREW—Teacher, the Rev. D. Marks.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE—Professor Tom Taylor, A.M.
FRENCH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE—Professor Merlet.
ITALIAN LANGUAGE and LITERATURE—Professor Pepoli.
COMPARATIVE GRAMMAR—Professor Key, A.M.
MATHEMATICS—Professor De Morgan.
NATURAL PHILOSOPHY and ASTRONOMY—Professor Potter, A.M.
CHEMISTRY—Professor Graham.
PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY—Professor Fownes.
CIVIL ENGINEERING—Professor Harman Lewis, A.M.
MECHANICAL PRINCIPLES of ENGINEERING—Professor Hodgkinson, F.R.S.
ARCHITECTURE—Professor Woodcroft.
GEOLOGY—Professor Donaldson, M.L.B.A.
DRAWING—Teacher, Mr. Moore.
BOTANY—Professor Lamb, F.R.S.
ZOOLOGY (Recent and Fossil)—Professor Grant, M.D.
PHILOSOPHY of MIND and LOGIC—Professor the Rev. J. Hershel, Ph.D.
ANCIENT and MODERN HISTORY—Professor Cressy, A.M.
LAW—Professor Marshall, A.M.
JURISPRUDENCE—Professor Harcourt, B.L.
SCHOOLMASTERS' CLASSES—Professors Newman, Malden, De Morgan, and Potter.

RESIDENCE OF STUDENTS.—Several of the Professors, and some of the Masters of the Junior School, receive Students to reside with them; and in the office of the College there is kept a register of parties unconnected with the College who receive boarders into their families. The register will afford information as to terms and other particulars.

A PLACEMENT SCHOLARSHIP of 452 per annum, tenable for four years, will be awarded in the Session 1847-48, by Examiners to be appointed by the Council, to the best proficient in Classics among the Students of the College. Scholarship will be awarded in January 1848, for Mathematical and Natural Philosophy, and in January 1849, for Classics.

Prospectus and further particulars may be obtained at the office of the College.
FRANCIS W. NEWMAN, Dean of the Faculty.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

The Session of the Faculty of Medicine commences on the 1st of October.
The Junior School opens on the 23rd of September.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The JUNIOR SCHOOL.—Under the Government of the Council of the College.

Head Master—THOMAS HEWITT KEY, A.M.
The SCHOOL will OPEN on THURSDAY, the 23rd of September. The Session is divided into Three Terms—viz. from 23rd of September to Christmas, from Christmas to Easter, and from Easter to the 4th of August.
The yearly payment for each Pupil is 12s., of which 2s. are paid in advance in each term. The hours of attendance are from a quarter past 9 to three-quarters past 3. The afternoons of Wednesday and Saturday are devoted exclusively to Drawing.
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Any Pupil may omit Greek, or Greek and Latin, and devote his whole attention to the other branches of education.
There is a general examination of the Pupils at the end of the Session, and the prizes then given.
The discipline of the School is maintained without corporal punishment.
A monthly report of the conduct of each Pupil is sent to his parent or guardian.
Several of the Masters receive boarders.
Further particulars may be obtained at the office of the College.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

The College Lectures in the Classes of the Faculty of Medicine commence on the 1st of October; those on the Faculty of Arts on the 13th of October.—August 1847.

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Amateur Gardener
Archery
Asphalted flooring
Bee-book, Golding's
Bees
Bee-flowers
Botanical Society
Bryony, by Mr. J. S. Henslow
Calendar, agricultural
Carnation, culture of, in France
Cattle show at Northampton
Chenopodium polyanthum
Clay Farm, Chronicles of
Clematis, wild, Hymenocallis
Crops, chemical principles of the
rotation of, by Dr. Gardner
Culver Keys
Cuttings, transmission of, to foreign countries
Dahlia, to dwarf
Drainage of land, by Mr. J. Girdwood
Drainage of land, Smith of
Deanston
Entomological Society
Fruit trees, replacement of
Gas tar as manure
Glass, substitute for
Grimston's Egyptian pea
Heating, old plan of, by Mr. J. Cutbill, Cambridge
Highland Agricultural Society's annual meeting
Hymenocallis on conifer wood (with Engravings)
Landscape gardening
Manures, artificial
Manure, gas tar as
Manure, superphosphate of lime
Meeting, Northampton
Meeting, judges at, by Mr. J. H. Dickson, London
Peas, potatoes near
Pisa, Grimston's Egyptian
Pine-apple, by Mr. R. Grimmett, Woodstock
Potato, new disease in, by Rev. M. J. Beale
Potatoes near Paris
Potatoes for seed, to store
Purley, Mr. J. (Mr.) garden, noticed
Roses, Banksian
Scrap, miscellaneous, by Mr. J. W. P. Lamb, [Bodham Hurst
Green
Simethis bicolor, by Mr. C. C. Paulson
Solomon jasmoides
Sowing, thin
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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1847.

REVIEWS

A Voyage up the River Amazon, including a Residence at Pará. By William H. Edwards. Murray.

THIS newest volume of Murray's 'Home and Colonial Library,' though not the least entertaining of the series, is, we think, the worst written: not merely abounding in Americanisms which remind us of its origin—but also containing too many tawdry passages of writing for a book which is to make one of "a Library." Surely, when such is the case, a little editorial care and taste might be exercised without damage to one fact of importance, one trait of character, one touch of humour, or one individuality of style.

The faults complained of are not the less provoking because Mr. Edwards in some measure breaks new ground,—generally describes unfamiliar scenery; while his special pursuit as a naturalist gives a relish to his tour up the Amazon. In no other book that we recollect has the luxuriant wealth of the tropics in birds, vegetable productions, and insect wonders and monsters (counting the alligator among "worms") been more teeming set before us. Nervous people will find in these pages an array of curiosities little less rich, various and provocative than those assembled by Sidney Smith with such horrible and merciless distinctness in the paragraph of his review, we think, of 'Waterton's Wanderings.' Ere they arrive at the close of this first moiety of Mr. Edwards's Wanderings, they will possibly have learnt to think lightly of snakes, and to acquiesce in his dictum that a district is desirable in proportion as it is filled with undescribed species of vermin. A few Amazon dishes, too, are commemorated, which will surprise them; ranging with the strange plat immortalized by the Count de Ségur,—also, if we recollect rightly, South American,—to wit, "parrots boiled in chocolate." To be serious, Mr. Edwards's book is full of novelty: and we can hardly open it at a page which has not its picture for the general observer and its product for those who, like Sir Joseph Banks, look on the earth as one vast museum. Thus, we shall attempt no order nor connexion in our extracts. Here is the landing-place at Pará.—

"It was low tide, and, as no wharves run out for the convenience of vessels, we were obliged to land at the market-place, the Ponto de Pedras, a long narrow pier. It would be impossible to conceive a more utterly novel tableau than here broke upon us. It was an introduction, at once, to half that was curious in the city. Files of canoes skirt the whole length of the pier, high and dry above the water. The more fortunate occupants who have sold their wares are rationally engaged: some sleeping; others preparing their morning meal; others combing and arranging their luxuriant tresses—for even an Indian woman has a little vanity; and others, the most of all, chattering with their neighbours, or screaming in shrill tones to friends on shore. Here are negroes of every shade and colour, from the pure Congo to the almost pure white; some buying, some selling. There stands one, with his basket of coarse cotton-cloth and his yard stick; and close by an old wench is squatted by a pot of yellow soup [soap?], the extract of some palm-nut. Here are strings of inviting fish, and piles of less captivating terrapins; coarse baskets, filled with *Vigna* crabs, the best in the world; and others of palm-leaves, fashioned like a straw reticule, are swelled out with the delicious snails. Monkeys, fastened to clogs, entice you to purchase them by their antics; and white herons, and various other wild birds, by their beauty. Everywhere, and most numerous of all, are the fruit-dealers; and for a mere nothing all the luxuries of this fruit-prolific climate are yours. Beautiful bouquets of flowers invite a purchaser; and now, for the first time, you observe the

singularly neat appearance of the women, each dressed in white, and with a flower in her hair, and you remember that it is a holiday. Oddly dressed soldiers mingle among the crowd; inquisitive officials peer about for untaxed produce; sailors, from vessels in the harbour, are constantly landing; gentlemen of the city are down for their morning stroll; beautiful Indian girls flit by like visions; and scores of boys and girls, in all the freedom of nakedness, contend with an equal number of impudent goats for the privilege of running over you."

The "surroundings" of the town are, after their fashion, little less lively than its streets. The following is a picture of the neighbourhood of the rice mills of Magoary; distant about twelve miles by land, "and two tides, or about ten hours," by water.—

"The scenery about the mill is very fine. In front the stream, a broad lake at high water and a tiny brook at other times, skirting a low meadow at the distance of a hundred rods, is lost in the embowering shrubbery. All beyond is a dense forest. Upon the meadow a number of large fat cattle are browsing on the coarse grass, and flocks of jacanas, a family of water-birds, remarkable for their long toes, which enable them to step upon the leaves of lilies and other aquatic plants, are flying with loud cries from one knoll to another. Back of the mill the road leads towards the city, and to the right and left are well-beaten paths, leading to small, clear lakes, from which the mill derives its water. The whole vicinity was formerly a cultivated estate, but the grounds are now densely overgrown. At the distance of a mile the road crosses what is called the first bridge, which spans a little stream which runs sporting through the woodland. The colour of the water of this and other small streams is of a reddish cast, owing, doubtless, to the decomposing vegetation. It is, however, very clear, and fishes and eels may at any time be seen playing among the logs and sticks which strew the bottom. Beyond this bridge is the primeval forest. Trees of incredible girth tower aloft, and from their tops one in vain endeavours to bring down the desired bird with a fowling-piece. The trunks are of every variety of form, round, angular, and sometimes resembling an open network, through which the light passes in any direction. Amid these giants very few low trees or little underbrush interfere with one's movements, and very rarely is the path intercepted by a fallen log. But about the trees cling huge snake-like vines, winding round and round the trunks, and through the branches sending their long arms, binding tree to tree. Sometimes they throw down long feelers, which swing in mid air until they reach the ground, when, taking root, they in their turn throw out arms that cling to the first support. In this way the whole forest is linked together, and a cut tree rarely falls without involving the destruction of many others. This creeping vine is called *sewaw*, and, having the strength and flexibility of rope, is of inestimable value in the construction of houses and for various other purposes. Around the tree-trunks clasp those curious anomalies, parasitic plants, sometimes throwing down long, slender roots to the ground, but generally deriving sustenance only from the tree itself and from the air, called hence, appropriately enough, air-plants. These are in vast numbers, and of every form, now resembling lilies, now grasses or other familiar plants. Often a dozen varieties cluster upon a single tree. Towards the close of the rainy season they are in blossom, and their exquisite appearance, as they encircle the mossy and leaved trunk with flowers of every hue, can scarcely be imagined. At this period, too, vast numbers of trees add their tribute of beauty, and the flower-domed forest from its many-coloured altars ever sends heavenward worshipful incense. Nor is this wild luxuriance unseen or unenlivened. Monkeys are frolicking through festooned bowers, or chasing in revelry over the wood arches. Squirrels scamper in ecstasy from limb to limb, unable to contain themselves for joyousness. Coatis are gambolling among the fallen leaves, or vying with monkeys in nimble climbing. Pacas and agoutis chase wildly about, ready to scud away at the least noise. The sloth, enlivened by the general inspiration, climbs more rapidly over the branches, and seeks a spot where in quiet and repose he may rest him. The

exquisite, tiny deer, scarcely larger than a lamb, snuffs exultingly the air, and bounds fearlessly, knowing that he has no enemy here. Birds of gaudiest plumage flit through the trees. The trogon, lonely sitting in her leaf-encircled home, calls plaintively to her long-absent mate. The motmot utters his name in rapid tones. Tucano, tucano, comes loudly from some fruit-covered tree, where the great toucans are rioting. 'Noiseless chatters' flash through the branches. The loud rattling of the woodpecker comes from some topmost limb; and tiny creepers, in livery the gayest of the gay, are running up the tree-trunks, stopping now and then their busy search to gaze inquisitively at the strangers. Pairs of chiming thrushes are ringing their alternate notes like the voice of one bird. Parrots are chattering, paroquets screaming. Manakins are piping in every low tree, restless, never still. Wood-pigeons, the 'birds of the painted breasts,' fly startled; and pheasants of a dozen varieties go whirring off. But, most beautiful of all, humming-birds, living gems, and surpassing aught that's brilliant save the diamond, are constantly darting by; now stopping an instant to kiss the gentle flower, and now furiously battling some rival humble-bee. Bejjar flor, kiss-flower,—'tis the Brazilian name for the humming-bird, beautifully appropriate. Large butterflies float past, the bigness of a hand, and of the richest metallic blue; and from the flowers above comes the distant hum of myriads of gaily-coated insects. From his hole in the sandy road, the harmless lizard, in his gorgeous covering of green and gold, starts nimbly forth, stopping, every instant, with raised head and quick eye, for the appearance of danger; and armies of ants in their busy toil are incessantly marching by."

If Mr. Edwards is not sparing of new marvels, he deals somewhat familiarly—not to say disrespectfully—with certain old established terrors. Really if the vampire be no more formidable than when described as follows, there is no saying but we may next hear of the innocent sociability of the *cobra di capello*.—

"There is one enemy which sometimes approaches even a hammock, and takes a tribute from the unconscious sleeper, and that is the vampire-bat. They are common enough anywhere, but about the mill seem to have concentrated in disproportionate numbers. During the day they are sleeping in the tiles of the roof, but no sooner has the declining sun unloosed the eve than they may be seen issuing in long black streams. Usually, we avoided all these intimacies by closing the shutters at sunset; but occasionally some of them would find entrance through the tiles, and we went forth to battle them with all the doughty arms within our reach, nor stopped the slaughter until every presumptuous intruder had hit the dust, or, less metaphorically, had sprawled upon the floor. Several thus captured measured each upwards of two feet across the wings, but most were smaller. Of their fondness for human blood, and especially that particular portion which constitutes the *animus* of the great toe, from personal experience I am unable to vouch; but every one in the country is confident of it, and a number of gentlemen, at different times, assured us that they themselves had been phlebotomized in that member, nor knew of the operation until a bloody hammock afforded indubitable evidence. They spoke of it as a slight affair, and probably the little blood that is extracted is rarely an injury. If the foot is covered there is no danger, or if a light is kept burning in the room; and often we have slept unharmed, thus guarded, where bats were flitting about and squeaking the night long. Cattle and horses are not so easily protected, and a wound once made, the bat returns to it every night until proper precautions are taken or the animal is killed by loss of blood."

The collector of animal cries will make valuable additions to his catalogue from this book.—At *Braves*, on the Amazon, Mr. Edwards had an opportunity of observing the process of aboriginal art applied not only to manufactures but also to personal decoration.—

"*Braves* is one of the little towns that have grown up since the active demand for rubber, of which the surrounding district yields vast quantities. It is a small collection of houses, partly thatched and partly

of mud, stationed anywhere, regardless of streets or right lines. Bradley and I started to explore for eggs whereon to breakfast. We found our way to a little affair called a store, or venda, in front of which a number of leisurely gentlemen were rolling balls at one-pin. We were politely greeted with the raised hat and the customary 'viva,' and a chance at the pin was as politely offered, which with many thanks we were obliged to decline. Our errand was not very successful, for upon the next Sunday was to be a festa in the vicinity, and the hens were all engaged for that occasion. At one of the houses an old Indian woman was painting pottery, that is plates, and what she called 'pombos' and 'gallos,' or doves and cocks, but bearing a very slight resemblance to those birds. Another was painting bilhas, or small water-jars, of white clay and beautiful workmanship. She promised to glaze anything I would paint, giving me the use of her colours. So I chose a pair of the prettiest bilhas, and, after a consultation on the raft, we concluded to commemorate our travels by a sketch of the galliots. It was a novel business, but after several trials I made a very fair picture, with the aid of contemporary criticisms. The old taucha was mightily pleased to see himself so honoured, as were the others, who gathered round, watching every movement of the pencil, and expressing their astonishment. The figure of the princess especially excited uproarious applause. Beside these were several other devices, and at last, all complete, I took my adventure to the old woman. But she was provoked at something, and would not be persuaded to apply the glazing. However, after much coaxing and many promises, she assured us that we should have them on our return down the river. The colours she used were all simple. The blue was indigo; black, the juice of the mandioca; green, the juice of some other plant; the red and yellow were of clay. The brushes were all spines of palms, and the colouring was applied in squares or circles; or, if anything imitative was intended, in the rudest outline. The ware was glazed by a resinous gum found in the forest. This was rubbed gently over, the vessel previously having been warmed over a bed of coals. • • We were struck, at Braves, by the appearance of some Portuguese boys, whose teeth had been sharpened in the Indian manner. The custom is quite fashionable among that class who come over seeking their fortunes, they evidently considering it as a sort of naturalization. The blade of a knife or razor is laid across the edge of the tooth, and by a slight blow and dexterous turn a piece is chipped off on either side. All the front teeth, above and below, are thus served; and they give a person a very odd, and, to a stranger, a very disagreeable appearance. For some days after the operation is performed the patient is unable to eat or drink without severe pain; but soon the teeth lose their sensitiveness, and then seem to decay no faster than the others. One day there was a funeral of a child. For some time previous to the burial the little thing was laid out upon a table, prettily dressed and crowned with flowers. The mother sat cheerfully by its side, and received the congratulations of her friends that her little one was now an angel."

But the scene of scenes was in the Island of Macapá. Should the following pages fall under the eye of Audubon, they will make his mouth water and his hand move towards his rifle,—or age has tamed the woodsman faster than we hope is the case. The island is famous for its birds:—scarlet ibises, spoonbills, fly-catchers, &c.—

"We left Jungcal for the rookery about nine o'clock, with the flood-tide, in a montaria with a couple of guides. They were men of the estate, and looked upon the adventure as most lucky for them. Making pleasure subservient to business, they carried their harpoons for fish or alligators, and baskets for young birds. Immediately after leaving the landing we startled a cigana from her nest in the low bushes by the water. The stream grew more and more narrow, winding in every direction. Tops of tall trees met over our heads, countless flowers filled the air with perfume, and the light and shade played beautifully among the green masses of foliage. Upon the trees were perched birds of every variety, which flew before our advance at short distances in con-

stantly increasing numbers, or, curving, passed directly over us; in either case affording marks too tempting to be neglected. Upon some topmost limb the great blue heron, elsewhere shyest of the shy, sat curiously gazing at our approach. Near him, but lower down, herons white as driven snow—some tall and majestic as river naiads, others small and the pictures of grace—were quietly dozing after their morning's meal. Multitudes of night herons, or tacarés, with a loud quack, flew startled by; and now and then, but rarely, a boatbill with his long-plumed crest would scud before us. The snakebird peered out his long neck to discover the cause of the general commotion; the cormorant dove, from the dry stick where he had slept away the last hour, into the water below, swimming with head scarcely visible above the surface, and a ready eye to a treacherous shot. Ducks rose hurriedly, and whistled away; curassows flew timidly to the deeper wood; and fearless hawks, of many varieties, looked boldly on the danger. With a noise like a falling log an alligator would splash into the water from the bank where she had been sunning herself or looking after her nest; and often at once half a dozen huge, unsightly heads were lifted above the surface, offering a fair but not always practicable mark for a half-ounce ball. Occasionally a whole family of little alligators, varying in length from six to eighteen inches, would start out of the leaves instinctively, some plumping themselves in, as the examples of their respected mamma had taught them; others, in their youthful innocence, standing gazing at us from the top of the bank, but with more than youthful cunning ready also to pump in at the least motion towards raising a gun. At frequent intervals the beaten track from the water disclosed the path of some of these monsters; and a pile of leaves just seen through the trees showed clearly the object of their terrestrial excursions. As we neared the rookery, after a two hours' pull, the birds were more and more abundant, and the alligators more and more bold, scarcely minding our approach, and only learning caution by repeated applications of leaden balls. The frequent proximity of the king jacarés offered many opportunities to the harpooner in the bow; but we feared, by his ill success, that these autocrats cared very little for punches in the ribs. Turning suddenly we left the bordering forest for a cane-brake, and instantly broke full upon the rookery. In this part the scarlet ibises particularly had nested; and the banded tops of the canes were covered by half-grown birds in their black plumage, interspersed with many in all the brilliance of age. They seemed little troubled at our approach, merely flying a few steps forward or crossing the stream. Continuing on, the flocks increased in size; the red birds became more frequent, the canes bent beneath their weight like reeds. Wood ibises and spoonbills began to be numerous. The nests of all these filled every place where a nest could be placed; and the young ibises, covered with down, and standing like so many storks, their heavy bills resting upon their breasts and uttering no cry, were in strong contrast to the well-feathered spoonbills, beautiful in their slightly roscate dress, and noisily loquacious. Passing still onward, we emerged from the canes into trees; and here the white herons had made their homes, clouding the leaves with white. Interspersed with these were all the varieties mentioned before, having finished their nesting, and being actively engaged in rearing their young. We had sailed above a mile, and at last, seeming to have approached the terminus, we turned and went below a short distance to a convenient landing where we could pursue our objects at leisure. The boatmen at once made their dispositions for basketing the young birds; and soon, by shaking them down from the nests and following them up, had collected as many as they desired. We wandered a long distance back, but the nests seemed, if anything, more plentiful, and the swarms of young more dense. At the sound of the gun the birds in the immediate vicinity rose in a tumultuous flock; and the old ones circled round and round, as though puzzled to understand the danger they instinctively feared. In this way they offered beautiful marks to our skill; and the shore near the canoe was soon strewn with fine specimens. Evidently this place had been for many years the haunt of these birds. Not a blade of grass could be seen; the ground was smooth and hard, and covered

with excrement. Occasionally, and not very rarely, a young heedless would topple into the water, from which the noses of alligators constantly protruded. Buzzards also upon the bank sunned themselves and seemed at home; and not unfrequently a hungry hawk would swoop down and away with his prey almost unheeded. We were amused by the manner of feeding the young scarlet ibises. In the throat of the old female bird, directly at the base of the lower mandible, is an enlargement of the skin, forming a pouch, which is capable of containing about the bulk of a small hen's egg. She would return from fishing on the shallows, with this pouch distended by tiny fish, and allowed her young to pick them out with their bills. It was late when the tide turned, and we hastened away with the canoe loaded to overflowing. The birds seemed now collecting for the night. Squads of bright-coloured ones were returning from the shore, and old and young were settling on the canes over the water like swallows in August. An alligator gave us an opportunity for a last shot, and the air was black with the clouds of birds that arose, shrieking and crying. I never conceived the idea of a cloud of birds before."

Enough has been quoted, we think, to invite the reader to make acquaintance with Mr. Edwards for himself. We suspect—from a reference or two, coupled with the general tone of assurance which pervades the narrative—that naturalists will receive his statements as dashing rather than accurate. Be this as it may, the book is a good and peculiar adventure-book for the less scientific and erudite.

Literary and Historical Memorials of London. By J. Heneage Jesse. 2 vols. Bentley.

THIS is an attractive title-page: yet the volumes are two dull ones—full of blunders and omissions. We had hoped that Mr. Bentley would have found his stock on hand of the 'Antiquarian Ramble' and the 'Homes and Haunts' more than enough for his pocket and reputation—yet here is their fit companion, with a promise made somewhere in the middle of the second volume that we are to have more of this kind of writing and from the same pen. Mr. Jesse, like his father, retails history at second hand. He has no better sources than the 'Biographia Britannica' and the abridgments of Goldsmith and Pinnock. Yet his style is pleasant; and we read on, offended at every turn with the manner in which he violates and distorts the incidents he relates—and with the wholesale blunders which he commits. The easy assurance with which he assumes that he is really adding to the established literature of his country is alternately pleasant and provoking. It is fit that a system of book-making like this should be everywhere rebuked; and authors like Mr. Jesse, to whom the public gives a goodnatured confidence, taught that works of the pretension of that before us are not to be undertaken lightly nor executed flippantly. There is not a symptom of research or common correction in these volumes; and the facts are in the slipshod style of a man ill-read and with a very bad memory. This general character we will proceed to exemplify—as we did in the case of Mr. Howitt's 'Homes and Haunts'—by a list of 'Errata': premising, however, that we have allowed a pretty stock of common cockney blunders—such as Gray's Trivia, Ogilby's Iliad, Adams for Adam, &c.—to remain behind. Errors like the following are not typographical mistakes; but the blunders of an author who has corrected carelessly or who knows no better.—

VOL. I.

P. 5. "Barnabe Rice, in his 'Honestie of the Age,' &c. &c. He that some forty years since should have asked after Piccadilly."—[Read Rich—and the Honestie of this Age—since for since; a piccadilly (a ruff) and not Piccadilly is a street. The whole account of the origin of Piccadilly is a poor history of the information accessible at the present moment.]

P. 8. "Aggas's 'Plan of London' published in 1560."—[We have the same date put forward with equal confidence in Vol. II. p. 29; and we have the map itself—or something

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is engraved in the book before us with the date 1563. The truth is, we do not know when Agass's map was published, and 1560 is a mere guess. Whilst on this subject, we mention that Mr. Jesse's map of London and Westminster in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Anno Dom. 1563, contains among the Bankside localities "Shakespeare's Play House."—One year before Shakespeare was born and thirty years before the Globe was built.

P. 112. Berkeley House "was built by Lord Berkeley of Devonshire about the year 1670."—[It was built in 1665.]

P. 112. Pepys writes "25th September, 1672." &c.—[Pepys's diary ends in 1693. The passage quoted is in Evelyn.]

P. 112. "Having no respect to the wings they join to."—[Read report of the passage in, as we have said, in Evelyn's diary, and the latter error, not a very important one, is given merely as an additional example of slovenly quotation.]

P. 112. Berkeley House was the residence of the Cavendish family at least as early as the reign of Charles the Second.—[Read reign of William the Third. The first Cavendish who went to live there was the first Duke of Devonshire, in 1697.]

P. 112. "We find the venerable Christiana, widow of William, the second Earl, maintaining a splendid and hospitable establishment here in 1674, when Waller and Denham were her guests."—[A strange party! Denham was buried in Westminster Abbey, 23rd March, 1668-9.]

P. 112. "Altenar-street witnessed the last scenes of Harley's closing life; that celebrated statesman having breathed his last at his house in this street on the 21st May, 1741."—[Harley's house was in Dover Street, and here his son lived after him.]

P. 112. "St. James's Church, Piccadilly, built by Sir Christopher Wren in the reign of James II."—[The church was consecrated 13th July, 1684, and Charles II. did not die till the 6th of February, 1684-5: consequently it was built in the reign of Charles II.]

P. 112. "In this church [St. James's] is buried the celebrated bookseller and dramatist and poet, Robert Dodsley."—[He is buried at Durham. It is James Dodsley who is buried in St. James's.]

P. 112. The extract from Chandon (the well-known passage about Piccadilly) contains three gross blunders; and the next quotation, on the following page, from the *Stratford Papers*, has a stupid mistake.

P. 112. "The 'New View of London,' published in 1707."—[Read 1708.]

P. 112. Golden Square "was built after the accession of William the Third, in what were then styled the Pest House Fields, the site of a fortress erected by Lord Craven as a receptacle for the miserable sufferers from the Great Plague of 1665!"—[Lord Craven's Pest-houses stood not on the site of Golden Square, but considerably above—and nearly on the site of Carnaby Market. Lord Craven's Houses were erected after the period of the Great Plague, for the entertainment of persons that shall have the plague, when it shall please God that any contagion shall happen.]

P. 112. "Mrs. Bracegirdle, the celebrated actress, who was supposed to be on the point of marriage with Montfort."—[No less celebrated actor.]—[Supposed only by Mr. Jesse. Montfort was married already to a charming actress—afterwards Mrs. Verbruggen: but Mr. Jesse knows nothing about her;—for he calls her at p. 226 Mrs. Verbruggen.]

P. 112. "May Fair * * * derives its name from the celebrated fair which was held in its green meadows from the reign of Henry VIII. till the middle of the last century."—[May Fair originally St. James's Fair] was not held on the site of the present May Fair till Charles the Second's time.]

P. 112. "From hence [Bond Street] I find Gilbert West, the poet, dating many of his letters to Gray."—[What letters? Gray's correspondence was, as every schoolboy knows, Richard West—a very different person from Gilbert West.]

P. 112. "The building of Old Bond Street was commenced the year 1716."—[Read 1686. Hatton describes it in 1706. Mr. Jesse has been somewhere in New Bond Street was built about 1716; and so (with his accustomed accuracy) transfers the date to the old street.]

P. 112. "Here [in Berkeley Square] died Lady Mary Wortley Montagu."—[She died in George Street, Hanover Square.]

P. 112. "Uxbridge House, the work of Leoni."—[The work of Vardy.]

P. 112. "Arlington Street, so called from the Bennets, Earls of Arlington."—[There was only one Bennet, Earl of Arlington;—of whom Mr. Jesse, as we shall see, knows literally nothing. By the way, Mr. Bentley advertises 'The Bennet Correspondence.' Is Mr. Jesse to be his editor?]

P. 112. "Here [in Arlington Street], in 1730, lived the celebrated William Pulteney, afterwards Earl of Bath; and to this street three years afterwards retired his great rival, Sir Robert Walpole."—[Pulteney was living here in 1714; and here Sir Robert Walpole was born in 1717.]

P. 112. "And Sedley caused the charms which pleased a king."—[Read "And Sedley caused the form that pleased a king."]

P. 112. "The latter building [a house of public refreshment] was probably the tavern called the Old Pall Mall, at which Pepys informs us that he occasionally supped."—[The Old Pall Mall was a street—not a house; and the place that Pepys frequented was "Wood's, at the Pell Mall, our old house for clubbing."]

P. 112. "Nell Gwyn built a house in Pall Mall."—[There is no authority for this. Because Nell lived in a house in Pall Mall, it does not follow that she built it.]

P. 112. Nell Gwyn "died here in 1691."—[She was buried in St. Martin's, Nov. 17th, 1687.]

P. 112. "The German Chapel * * * was originally built as a Roman Catholic place of worship for the use of Henrietta Maria, after her marriage to Charles the First."—[Read, for the use of Catherine of Portugal, after her marriage to Charles the Second. Henrietta's Chapel was at Somerset House.]

P. 112. The Bird-cage Walk "derives its name from the cages which were hung in the trees."—[A nursery tale—

and nothing more. The Walk derives its name from the cages for the king's cormorant and ducks, which were situated on the south side of St. James's Park.]

P. 186. The game of pall mall * * * was played—as appears by a plan of St. James's Palace, printed in 1690—on the site of the present Pall Mall.—[No such plan is known.]

P. 190. "The house of Nell Gwyn in Pall Mall had been built for her by her royal lover."—[There is no authority for this. The king gave her a house—built and inhabited before Nell Gwyn went into it.]

P. 205. "At the restoration of Charles the Second, the Spring Gardens [in St. James's Park] were re-opened—with increased incentives, &c."—[The Spring Gardens of the Restoration, or Pepys, and 'The Spectator,' were what are now called Vauxhall.]

P. 208. "Dr. King writes, about the time of the Protectorate."—[Dr. King was born in 1663—three years after the Restoration.]

P. 208. "The Mulberry Garden, according to Malone, was the favourite resort of the immortal Dryden."—[The authority is not Malone's—though he quotes it. It is that of an old correspondent of one of the early volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine*.]

P. 208. "The 'princely palace,' alluded to in Dr. King's verses was doubtless Tart Hall."—[Dr. King alludes to Buckingham House, as built by Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham.]

P. 208. In Tart Hall "were preserved the famous Arundel Marbles; and it was in the garden that they were buried during the excitement occasioned by the Popish Plot."—[The famous Arundel Marbles were never in Tart Hall:—and what is more, they were given to the University of Oxford in 1667, several years before the Popish Plot.]

P. 209. "Henry Bennet, Earl of Arlington, * * * the Achitophel of Dryden's poem."—[Achtophel was the Earl of Shaftesbury.]

P. 212. "At No. 2, James Street, lived Glover, the author of 'Leonidas'; and I believe this is the same house which was afterwards occupied by Gifford, the * * * editor of the 'Quarterly Review.'"—[Gifford's was No. 6.]

P. 212. "Storey's Gate, formerly called Storehouse Gate, from a storehouse of the Ordnance having formerly stood there."—[It was called Storey's Gate from a person of the name of Storey.]

P. 217. "Ben Jonson told me [Drummond] that * * * he [Spenser] and his wife merely escaped; that he afterwards died in King Street by absolute want of bread; and that he refused twenty pieces sent him by the Earl of Essex, and gave this answer to the person who brought them—'that he was sure he had no time to spend them.'"—[Amend the whole of this quotation. Dele merely—for "absolute want of bread," read "for lack of bread"—and for "he was sure he had no time to spend them," read "he was sorry he had no time to spend them." Another example of slovenliness.]

P. 232. "Cannon Row—or, as it was formerly called, Channel Row. Pennant conjectures that it derives its name from the canons of the neighbouring Abbey; and that the word was subsequently corrupted into Channel Row. When we find, however, that a branch or channel of the Thames ran in former times between the north end of the Row and Privy Gardens, we feel much more inclined to receive the ancient name as the correct one than to accept the far-fetched derivation of Pennant, and which, in fact, has only been adopted in modern times."—[Pennant copies Stow—who died in 1665. So much for modern times:—and Stow's derivation, let us add, is confirmed by Seiden, in his 'Table Talk']

P. 240. "Not the least interesting monument in St. Margaret's Church is that of the gallant and magnificent Charles Lord Howard of Effingham."—[There is no such monument. Lord Howard of Effingham is buried at Reigate; and the monument in St. Margaret's is to his sister. Lord Howard's name is mentioned upon it:—and Mr. Jesse, who only half reads things, has taken it as of course for Lord Howard's own monument.]

P. 258. St. John the Evangelist, Westminster, "the work of Sir John Vanbrugh."—[A vulgar error, exposed in Walpole and in Gray. It was built by a Mr. Archer.]

P. 262. List of Westminster Scholars. The date of birth is given against the name of each:—"1602. William Heminge, the dramatic writer and fellow-actor of Shakespeare."—[The dramatic writer was the son of the fellow-actor.]

P. 417. "Passing on [in Westminster Abbey] we find ourselves at one moment standing by the tomb of Dryden and now by that of Cowley; and as we read on the latter the name of its founder the Duke of Buckingham, we smile to think how the frolic Duke cudgeled the one poet and raised a tomb over the other."—[The frolic Duke was the second Duke of Buckingham of the Villiers family,—the same who erected Cowley's monument: but his cudgegelling Dryden is quite a new fact (one of Mr. Jesse's facts) in English biography.]

P. 418. How singular that two rival poets [Dryden and Shadwell] * * * should rest peacefully together under the same roof!—"They do not! Dryden is buried at Westminster—Shadwell at Chelsea."]

P. 431. "In Edward the Confessor's Chapel is preserved the ancient and celebrated coronation chair which was brought from Scotland by Edward the First."—[The stone, not the chair, was brought from Scotland by Edward I.]

P. 444. Dr. Henry Killigrew, the companion of Charles the Second in his social hours. The Killigrew who was the companion of Charles II. in his social hours was Henry's brother 'Tom.'

This is a pretty fair sprinkling for one volume,—and yet not all. Now let us turn to the second.

Vol. II.
P. 5. "Mary Davis, who is said to have captivated the heart of Charles the Second by singing in the character of 'Celania,' in 'The Mad Shepherdess,' the song:

My lodging is on the ground.—

[Read in 'The Rivals,' and—

My lodging it is on the cold ground.]

P. 9. "Sir James Thornhill breathed his last in this [Leicester] Square, on the 25th of October, 1764."—[Thornhill died May 4, 1734: and what is more he never lived in Leicester Square.]

P. 11. "It is remarkable that both Thornhill and his son-in-law Hogarth should have died in the same month, in the same year, and in the same square, and that both should have been buried at Chiswick."—[Four errors in one short paragraph. Thornhill did not die in Leicester Square, nor in the same month nor in the same year with Hogarth, and was not buried at Chiswick.]

P. 19. "This picture [of Lucy] was at Windsor within the last few years, and is doubtless still in existence."—[Mr. Jesse's father will show it to him at Hampton Court.]

P. 19. "To the ringers of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Nell Gwynn bequeathed a small sum annually, which they still continue to enjoy."—[The ringers know of no such sum: nor is any such bequest mentioned by Nell Gwynn in her will—which any one may consult for a shilling at Doctor's Commons.]

P. 20. In the vaults under the church [St. Martin's-in-the-Fields] lie the remains of the well-known dramatic writer Mrs. Centlivre."—[She is buried in St. Paul's, Covent Garden.]

P. 30. "It is remarkable that Sir Peter Lely, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and the celebrated landscape painter, Richard Wilson, should have been occupants at different times of the same apartments on the north side of Covent Garden."—[Such is not the case. Lely lived on the north side—and Kneller on the east.]

P. 37. "Wilks the great actor of the reign of King William and Queen Anne."—[Wilks was hardly known in the reign of William III. He achieved his reputation in the reigns of Anne and George I.]

P. 43. "It was here [at Button's] that Ambrose Philips hung the rod over the seat which was usually occupied by Pope."—[Ambrose Philips is said to have hung up a rod at Button's—but over the seat is a gratuitous addition. Cibber says it was hung in the room—a contemporary writer, that it was hung up "at the bar."]

P. 49. "Here [in Bow Street] was the shop of the famous publisher Jacob Tonson."—[Only his printing-office. Jacob lived and kept shop first of all at Gray's Inn Gate—next in Chancery Lane—and last of all in the Strand, over against Catherine Street.]

P. 51. "At the Cock Tavern, in Bow Street * * * took place in 1633 the disreputable frolic in which Lord Buckhurst &c. were the actors."—[Read 1663.] This may be a typographical error.

P. 56. "Here [in Rose Street] apparently stood the Rose Tavern."—[No! It stood in Little Russell Street, immediately adjoining Drury Lane Theatre.]

P. 58. Rochester "hired some ruffians, who waylaid the great poet [Dryden] in Rose Street on his way from Will's Coffee House to his own house in Gerrard Street; and inflicted on him a severe personal chastisement."—[When Dryden was cudgelled there was no Gerrard Street.]

P. 72. "In Wych Street, corrupted from Witch Street."—[The old name of Drury Lane was Via de Aldwych. Hence Wych Street—which is a continuation of Drury Lane.]

P. 73. The present [Drury Lane] Theatre stands on the site of a playhouse, which appears to have been erected here in the reign of Queen Elizabeth under the name of the Phoenix."—[The present Drury Lane Theatre does not stand on the site of the Phoenix. The site of the Cockpit or Phoenix (as it was called), is Pitt Place, Drury Lane, formerly Cockpit Place, and in the parish of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields. There was no Cockpit Theatre in the reign of Elizabeth. Such is Mr. Collier's opinion—a much better authority on such matters than Mr. Jesse.]

P. 81. Edward [Ned] Ward "at one period of his life * * * kept a house of entertainment in Long Acre."—[He never did.]

P. 81. He [Ned Ward] "is twice honoured by a mention in the 'Dunclad':—

'Not sail with Ward,' &c.
'As thick as eggs at Ward in pillory.'—

[The latter allusion refers not to Ned, but to John Ward of Hackney, a Member of Parliament, convicted of forgery, expelled the House, and then sentenced to the pillory.]

P. 84. "Here [in Queen Street] stood the house—in which he died in 1776—of the once celebrated George Digby, Earl of Bristol."—[Read, 1676. This may possibly be a typographical error.]

P. 93. "On the south side [of Lincoln's Inn Fields] stood Lindsey House."—[It still stands where it always stood—on the west side.]

P. 95. Charles the Second "presented Betterton with his splendid coronation suit, in which the actor performed the character of Alonzo. The Duke of York followed the King's example, by giving the suit which he had worn on the same occasion to Haines, who acted the part of Prince Prospero."—[For Alonzo read Alvaro: and for Haines read Harris—Mr. Pepys's friend Harris.]

P. 114. "In this interesting church [St. Giles's-in-the-Fields] lay buried the great sculptor John Flaxman."—[He is buried about two miles distant from the church—in the burial-ground near to St. Pancras Church.]

P. 118. Charing Cross "as well as the others were built after designs by Cavalini."—[For Cavalini, read Master Richard de Crundale.]

P. 119. "In 1678, it [the statue of Charles the First] was erected at Charing Cross."—[It was erected in 1674. See Waller's verses—and Burnet.]

P. 127. "They [Savage, Merchant, and Gregory] happened unluckily to discover a light in Johnson's Coffee House, near Charing Cross."—[Read, Robinson's Coffee House, at Charing Cross.]

P. 131. "As we descend towards Whitehall, a small court

- may be discovered on the east side of the street between Nos. 13 and 15, in which formerly stood the celebrated Rummers' Tavern."—[Read, the Rummer Tavern. The house, when Prior's uncle had it, stood on the opposite side of the street, two doors from Locket's Ordinary.]
- P. 141. "Twenty-one years afterwards (that is, after 1666), in March 1688, Sir John Denham himself breathed his last."—[Denham was buried 23rd March 1668-9.]
- P. 148. "According to Stow, the murdered remains of the Duke of Buckingham, after his assassination by Felton, were brought to Wallingford House; while, on the other hand, &c. Stow, however, as usual, is in the right."—[And Mr. Jesse, as usual, in the wrong. Stow died 5th April 1603; and the Duke whose assassination he is made to relate was killed 23rd August 1628—nearly a quarter of a century after.]
- P. 158. Shakespeare's "Henry the Eighth" was acted as early as 1603."—[Will Mr. Jesse send his authority for this new fact to Mr. John Payne Collier?]
- P. 212. "The source from which Pennant drew his sketch of the old palace [of Whitehall] is from the interesting plan taken by John Fisher in 1680, and engraved by Virtue in 1757."—[Virtue—not Virtue—who is said to have engraved this plan in 1757, died 24th of July, 1756. But this is not the only mistake. Did it never occur to Mr. Jesse that the plan must be at least twelve years earlier than 1680. In the marginal references on the plan itself the Duchess of Cleveland of the year (1680) is called the Countess of Castlemaine—Sir Christopher Wren is called Dr. Wren—and the apartments of the Surveyor of the Works, Sir John Denham, who died in 1660-9, are particularly pointed out.]

Here we must stop:—wanting strength and courage to go on with the remaining half of the second volume. Nor is it too much to say of the book before us, that while it makes and perpetuates blunders, there is not in its long nine hundred pages a single addition to the facts and traditions of the streets of London. We have gone, on the present and other occasions, into this kind of minute criticism because minuteness is the very pretension of the volumes under review. Without pausing to estimate the value of many of the particulars here recorded—or corrected, we remark that it is upon the statement of these particulars that such books value themselves. The assumption of this kind of close inquiry raises an inference which, unfortunately, gives authority to the inquirer's blunders; and he who imposes mistakes upon the public under the pretence of knowing more about such matters than others, stamps them for current by the false pretence. Mr. Jesse's book is free from any taint which enhances the literary offence; but no man, it is obvious, should set up to inform the world as a literary antiquary whose pages can yield such a crop of errors to antiquarian criticism as are here displayed. For what an amount of published inaccuracies, in the very masquerade of accuracy, is Mr. Bentley responsible in the series of books of this kind which he has lately thought fit to issue to the public!

Memoirs of the Private Life and Opinions of Louisa, Queen of Prussia, Consort of Frederick William III. By Mrs. C. Richardson. Bentley.

THE close of the last century and the early part of the present are rich in political and historical interest. Mankind were then bewildered with the earliest manifestations of that ill-understood conflict between the Old and the New, which, though terrible as a storm in its passage, purified the social atmosphere in the end, and prepared the way for those reforms which are essential as conditions to human progress. The biography before us represents this conflict in the amusing form in which it modified the manners of the Prussian court, and disturbed the notions of etiquette in certain official minds. The two princesses of Mecklenburg, celebrated by Goethe in his 'Dichtung und Wahrheit' as nothing less in appearance and conduct than "two celestial beings," were educated altogether under modern influences; and when the elder, the Princess Louisa, became the wife of Frederick William the Third and Queen of Prussia she was guilty of being natural to such a degree as frequently to throw the *Oberhof-*

meisterin (lady in waiting) into a state of despair.

The Princess Louisa was the daughter of Duke Charles Louis Frederick of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the brother of our own Queen Charlotte,—and was born on the 10th of March, 1776. In her seventh year she lost her mother, Frederica Carolina Louisa, daughter of a prince of Hesse-Darmstadt; and her education was completed under the direction of her grandmother the widowed Landgravine. During the occupation by the French of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, an accident introduced the Princess Louisa and the Crown Prince Frederick William of Prussia to each other. "At the first glance" (to adopt the somewhat too sentimental diction of Mrs. Richardson) "their hearts responded." On the 24th of April, 1793, they were betrothed at Darmstadt, and on the 24th of December following married.

It was not until the year 1797 that our heroine became, by the accession of her husband to the throne, Queen of Prussia—"the universally beloved and respected mother of the country." A crown made no difference in a character whose natural sweetness and simplicity were improved by literary cultivation. Neither she nor the king would submit to the forms of courtly etiquette. The Countess von Vosz was at a discount.

"The King was resolute in his rejection of external forms which restrained his natural inclinations. One day there was a question as to the ceremonial required for the reception of the congratulations of a foreign Court, which was to take place with all due forms of etiquette in Berlin the following day. The Countess von Vosz, who knew the minutest details in all such cases, remarked that on such a grand occasion the state-carriages should be used, and that the King and Queen must have the royal state-carriage, with eight horses richly caparisoned, two state-coachmen, and three state-footmen in their best state livery. 'Well,' said the King, 'you may order it as you will.' The next morning, when the brilliant equipage came up, the King put the Countess into the carriage, shut the door very suddenly, and cried out to the coachman, 'Go on.' He then jumped into his own ordinary open carriage, with two horses only, which he was in the habit of driving himself, and thus drove the Queen immediately behind the Countess in the state-carriage, amidst the laughter and delight of the bystanders."

This state of things was evidently pleasing to the popular mind. Accordingly when the royal pair went on their progresses to the eastern provinces, in order to receive the homage from the different states, their journeys resembled "a continuation of family rejoicings" rather than "a series of triumphal processions."

Mrs. Richardson delights in dwelling on instances of the enthusiasm and kindness of this queen's character and of the purity of her sources of emotion. An anecdote may be quoted here from the number which the writer has given—though it is difficult to extract the metal from the unnecessary gilding with which Mrs. Richardson has overlaid them.—

"At a brilliant military festival, which was celebrated in the church more especially belonging to the Court, called the Garrison Church, at which the King, Queen, and State Ministers were present, a very respectable-looking and well-behaved woman arrived too late to get any place in the already overflowing church. Totally unacquainted with the locality, she happened to fall into the line which led directly to the Queen's tribune, and without being aware to whom it was appropriated, she opened the door. Confused by the brilliant retinue which she saw already engaged in their devotions, she would have retired, but a sign from a lady of the Court, true to her character of gentleness and humility, directed her to take a seat in the back row of the tribune. She did so; and now she committed an unpardonable breach of etiquette in the estimation of the ceremonious *Oberhofmeisterin*, who, as soon as the Queen had left the

tribune, came forward with a storm of anger against the woman, for having dared to intrude herself into the place appropriated to her Majesty, and thereby insulting the dignity of the Queen. Vain were all the assurances that it was done without premeditation; no excuses availed: and although she named her husband's position as a respectable burgher of Potsdam, she was treated as if she had been guilty of a high crime, or misdemeanour against the dignity of royalty. Bishop Eylert says: 'In tears the poor woman came to me inconsolable at the idea that she could be supposed capable of being wanting in respect to the Queen, whom she regarded with the most profound veneration. Whilst she was weeping most bitterly, there came a gentleman of the Court, Count von Brühl, to tell me that the Queen desired to speak to me, if possible, immediately. As I entered the presence-chamber the Queen advanced to me with hurried steps, saying, in a state of agitation, 'But tell me, for heaven's sake, what has happened in the church. I have just heard, with great vexation, that a worthy woman, the wife of one of the citizens of Potsdam, has been harshly treated by the master of the ceremonials. Why, can it be that it is because she sat in a place in my tribune during divine service? It is well known what the King's and my opinions are upon the ceremonies of court etiquette. They cannot be entirely laid aside; but surely some distinction can be drawn, and that most assuredly in a church in the service of the Most High. I am inconsolable until I have exculpated her. I beg you to put this matter right. Come and dine with us to-day, at the Peacock Island, and bring me the assurance that the good woman is at ease again; and to-morrow morning bring her to me, for I shall be glad to know her personally.'"

When war with France became inevitable, the Queen evinced that she possessed, with all her finer dispositions, a German heart. She has accordingly incurred the censure of Napoleon for having accompanied her husband to Naumburg, on the River Saale, awaiting there with him the arrival of the Russian troops. A long series of troubles, as all the world knows, ensued for the heroine of Mrs. Richardson's book. The celebrated meeting between Queen Louisa and Napoleon at Tilsit is thus related.—

"As soon as she had taken possession of the apartments that had been prepared for her, the French Emperor paid her a visit. To sustain with calm dignity the first moments of the interview, was in the Queen's position no easy task. With great nicety of discrimination, and the most delicate tact which a noble mind only possesses, she received the French Emperor politely, regretting that he was obliged to ascend such a bad staircase, and inquired if the northern climate agreed with his health during the winter. He seemed surprised at the dignified demeanour of the King, and astonished at the exquisite beauty of the Queen, which far surpassed his expectations. He made many very flattering speeches, which were intended especially for the Queen. She, however, passed lightly over these expressions of personal admiration, and adroitly turned the conversation to general subjects; but Napoleon was by no means at his ease. Whilst he spoke he was swinging his whip backwards and forwards, and said, turning suddenly to the King, 'Sire, I admire the magnanimity and tranquillity of your soul amidst such numerous and heavy misfortunes.' The King replied slowly and steadily, 'Greatness and tranquillity of soul can only be acquired by the strength of a good conscience.' Whether the Emperor was offended by the tone and manner of the King, which piqued his proud nature, or whether his ordinary rudeness prompted him to make a rough reply, he suddenly exclaimed, 'But how could you begin a war with me who had already conquered so many powerful nations?' The King, well knowing that this question would lead to many others that must cause long and useless discussions, looked at him steadfastly and severely, but made no answer. The Queen replied, 'Sire, it was permitted to the glory of the Great Frederick to deceive us as to the extent of our powers; we were deceived; but it was so ordained.' She then endeavoured to turn the conversation into other channels. Somewhat later, she mentioned the object of her journey, and that

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he hoped to induce him to grant moderate terms for a treaty of peace with Prussia. The sequel has shown how this declaration was received. The French Emperor had no feeling of chivalrous honour; that quality was utterly wanting in him, and thus the intercession of a noble woman for a noble purpose was fruitless. It would be difficult to make a selection from the various questions the French Emperor asked, and the topics which he suggested, during this interview, with the evident design of creating embarrassment to the Queen. What constraint must have been felt by all who were present at this meeting! The Conqueror and Dictator, who had driven the legitimate Sovereigns to the remotest point of their dominions, now invited them as his guests. Perhaps history does not furnish a more singular and trying position than that to which the unfortunate Sovereigns were reduced on this occasion in striving to conciliate their mortal enemy. Napoleon gave a sumptuous banquet, at which the King sat as the guest of the Emperor Napoleon, at his left hand; the Queen being seated on the right. The King, grave and reserved, said little, but what he did say was appropriate and correct, without any political allusions, at least not obviously apparent. The conversation turned on the recollections of youth, and the King used the word 'cradle.' Napoleon smiled in his own peculiar way, and made the remark, 'But when the child is grown up into manhood he forgets the cradle.' 'Yes,' answered the King, 'but our origin and our associations we cannot forget; and the good man contemplates with feelings of gratitude the cradle in which he lay as a child.' Those who were present and observed the King at this moment, remarked that there was something peculiarly significant in the tone in which he uttered this speech;—he appeared apparently reflecting in sadness on the ancient provinces of his inheritance which he was required to rule. Unaccustomed to feign what he did not feel, this unnatural position was most disagreeable to him. His replies were even more laconic than they usually were, but always firm and manly. Napoleon afterwards called this 'statch;' but in this trying moment, as well as in the most desperate circumstances of his life, the King was true to himself. He, however left his share of supporting the conversation to the Queen, who, without blemishing the transparency of her character, possessed the command of language to a remarkable degree, and who, therefore, expressed herself in terms which, without warranting the imputation of flattery, which it was impossible for her to use, were yet calculated to make a pleasing impression. For instance, she spoke with respect and interest of the Empress Josephine, and on other subjects that might be supposed to interest Napoleon. He was perfectly enchanted with the Queen; such female dignity, united with such loveliness and grace, he had never before beheld. His admiration increased every moment, and he said afterwards, to Talleyrand, 'I knew that I was to see the most beautiful Queen in existence, but I have found the most beautiful Queen, and at the same time the most interesting woman in the world.' This opinion of her whom he had taken every opportunity of insulting and of representing in the light of an 'intrigante,' is a strong proof of that power of fascination which converts the bitterest enemies into friends. A French author, in his *Memoirs of Napoleon*, has thus alluded to the meeting at Tilsit:—'On sitting down to table, Napoleon, with great gallantry, told the beautiful Queen that he would restore Silesia, a province which she earnestly wished should be surrendered, to Prussia in the new arrangements which were about to take place.' Napoleon himself, in a letter to the Empress Josephine, written during the time of the treaty of Tilsit, says, 'the Queen of Prussia is really a charming woman; she is fond of coquetting with me; but do not be jealous, I am like cere-cloth, along which everything of this sort slides without penetrating. It would cost me too dear to play the gallant on this subject.' Nevertheless, it has been repeated, and on good authority, that Napoleon was greatly disposed to acquiesce in all the wishes of the Queen, and that one of his generals asked him in a discontented tone, 'If he thought every tear shed by a woman was to efface the blood of hundreds of his soldiers, which, if these requests were to be complied with, had been shed in vain!'

Perhaps the effect produced by this speech was the cause of the denial of the fortress of Magdeburg, which the Queen so earnestly desired to recover. It was related in the saloons of Josephine, that on one of the days during the Queen's stay in Tilsit, she held a beautiful rose in her hand, which the Emperor asked her to give him. The Queen hesitated a few moments, and then presented it to him, saying, 'Why should I so readily grant what you request, whilst you remain deaf to all my entreaties?' The motives of the Queen, in what Napoleon was pleased to call coquetry with him, cannot be mistaken. Her desire to alleviate the burdens of her people required the greatest tact, and the motive of her visit guards her from the imputation of coquetting with him. At a later period, it will be seen that Napoleon himself utters the best refutation of this charge in speaking of the Queen to Prince Talleyrand. The state of fermentation which prevailed throughout the whole nation, and which caused the Prussians to direct their attention more earnestly to their almost idolized Queen, was not unknown in the French Court; and Napoleon, who had a childish fear of the voice of truth, and who was anxious to obtain the good opinion of the Queen, loudly complained that he had not been able to inspire her with confidence. He declared to Talleyrand, that she might, if she had chosen, have come forward as a new Armida, and have dictated her terms of peace in Paris; but that she attached too much importance to the dignity of her sex, and seemed to estimate too highly the influence of public opinion, which she declared ought not to be too lightly sacrificed. After a residence of three days at head-quarters, the Queen returned to Memel, and the treaty of peace between Prussia and France was signed on the 9th of July. How distressing the peace of Tilsit was to the Queen, and how much it continued to affect her, she did not conceal. She often referred to the well-known observation of Mary, Queen of England, who declared that if her heart could be seen, the name of Calais, graven in bloody characters, would be found upon it. The Queen declared she felt thus with regard to Magdeburg."

In the midst of her outward trials, the Queen found consolation in the study of history;—and she seems to have cherished that mystical trust in Providence which is frequently the natural growth of inevitable troubles. The soul makes for itself the support which it cannot find. Accordingly, the pious and poetical mind of Queen Louisa was strongly attracted by that philosophy which (to quote her biographer) "trenched on the dominions of faith." Music and literature also came to her relief. "With good books, a good pianoforte, and a good conscience," she was wont to say, "one may live more tranquilly amidst the storms of this world than those who raise the tempest."—The first germ of the new Prussian constitution might be fancifully traced in the following anecdote, if the report of this Queen's harangue to her husband could be depended on.—

"On the second day of Whitsuntide, 1810, the King and Queen were enjoying the cool spring morning, on the open terrace of Sans Souci, which is adorned with antique busts, chiefly of the Roman Emperors, when the Queen stopped, and gazing on them, said, 'Have you ever remarked that many of these busts have a striking resemblance to the Emperor Napoleon, the mighty conqueror of our times?' The King replied by a bitter smile; and the Queen continued, 'Come here, and observe this profile of the bust of Nero; there is a great resemblance to Napoleon, only his lips are more contracted and more beautiful than these.' This observation gave her an opportunity of speaking on a subject of which her heart was full. She said, 'The present aspect of things proves the preponderance of physical power; for even if I admit that somewhat of the intellectual is combined with it, yet it has no moral influence. It is not founded on the will of the nation; for the people are not consulted, and on the contrary, are oppressed, discontented, and unhappy. The freedom of which the French boast so much is, in fact, only slavery; for the general good is lost sight of in the insatiable ambition of one man. His

iron rule is not felt so much whilst its results are fortunate; but this unnatural and despotic power cannot long endure. Nature will assert her rights. We feel this must be the case, but we are not ready for action. The time must come, but we, alas! may die before it arrives. Napoleon is a scourge in the hand of Providence, and when he is no longer needed for this purpose he will be cast away 'as a brand for the burning.'"

Queen Louisa—as many a sympathizing reader knows—died in the flower of her beauty and of her youth. In 1810, it was determined that she should visit her father at Strelitz—where she arrived on the 26th of June. On the 28th she was joined by the King; and in the evening they left Strelitz for Hohenzieritz. The Queen had already felt indisposed—with catarrh and fever. She retired early—evidently ill. Day by day, she grew worse. She lingered until the 19th of July: when she expired at the age of 34:—having led an irreproachable life, and exhibited virtues not only remarkable in one of her station but which would have been so in any. She has found an enthusiastic biographer in Mrs. Richardson:—whose style, however, is scarcely severe enough for a theme of this importance.

Wayfaring Sketches among the Greeks and Turks, and on the Shores of the Danube. By a Seven Years' Resident in Greece. Chapman & Hall.

THIS volume is principally devoted to the records of a voyage;—and is written, throughout, in an objectionably florid style. It is time to reckon with our picturesque writers; whose present fancy for trope and transubstantiation in language bids fair to give Posterity serious trouble and matter for wrangling. Let none of them pretend that it is an old fashion revived. Accuracy and neatness were once on a time thought indispensable to metaphor—precision to poetical diction. The very Euphuists when most far-fetched and fantastic were the most tiresomely exact. Under their dispensation, *Minerva* did not go forth with "the simplicity of *Venus'* doves;"—nor *Justice* rule the world with *Mercury's caduceus*. *Condescension* was not allowed to stiffen her back,—nor *Humility* to speak with the brazen throat of *Valour*. We are less precise in our forms of language and figures of speech now-a-days;—and were the above example solitary, we had not remonstrated. But let the ladies, in particular, look to it—or the Schoolmaster will be among them!

We have a second matter of complaint against our authoress: the somewhat pharisaical tone of profession and condemnation in which she indulges,—unaware, it would appear, not merely of the presumption but also of the inconsistency which it involves. For instance, when arrived at Constantinople, she "had not forgotten that it was Sunday, a day which it is, perhaps, more important to keep rigidly abroad than at home, that there may not seem to be any inconsistency in our conduct to those who have witnessed the strictness of its observance in England." A good sentiment, this, of its right kind:—yet what do we find in the very next paragraph?—"We set out to go to church:—but as we had an hour to spend before the service began, we employed it in walking about the town." This is not "rigid" Sabbath-keeping, as the Agnews and Plumptres understand it. The strictness of English usage, then, was relaxed, that Curiosity might turn a spare hour to account. Nothing can be more natural or defensible, according to our poor judgment. But wherefore lay down the law so severely? Was it English Protestant rigidity, again, which made the Lady run when she heard the bell of the Chapel at Schönbrunn call the court to Mass,—

and take such worldly note of her fellow worshippers that she can describe the Empress of Austria as "intently occupied in making every finger of her white kid gloves fit precisely on her hand"? Then, we must protest against the Wayfarer's violent denunciation of Mohammedanism "as originally a deeply-laid scheme, carried out with an almost fiend-like knowledge of the human heart, for enthraling the people by working solely on their evil passions"—seeing that her charitable conclusion was grounded on the experience of a few days' residence and sight-seeing at Constantinople! Why will cheerful, kindly-natured, English gentlewomen behave as if others must imagine their virtue doubtful and their religion latitudinarianism unless they play the part of Pope Joan on every possible occasion? The sectarian zeal which takes as many indulgences as suit itself, and anathematizes all which suit every one else, is about as mischievous a travelling companion as we know of; and its frequent appearance in English company has done much to lower the character of our countrymen on the continent.

But zeal, it may be pleaded, belongs inseparably to the eager, enthusiastic, female temperament. Let us admit the plea; and having spoken plainly of the offence given by it, let us recognize the pleasure afforded by our lady's observant eye and ready hand. Her first two chapters give the quintessence of her seven years' experience of Greece. To that country she looks back lovingly, and describes it in attractive colours—here and there interweaving bits of romantic history. We are stopped early in her pages by the details of the dispersion and execution of Bournaba's band of robbers. It seems next to impossible in Greece to find any one willing to put the "last sentence of the law" into effect. "On one occasion, when two unhappy men were to suffer, a great, ferocious-looking negro was the only person who could be found to perform the terrible office" (the engine being the guillotine); and this he would only consent to do if he was guarded day and night by a body of soldiers." For it had become the Greek fashion to assassinate the headsman the day before his work was to be done. On the present occasion, the ropes of the guillotine were found "so inextricably entangled" that it was impossible for the negro to complete his task. The culprit was obliged to be remanded: and another minister of punishment to be found, and brought to the spot from a distance.—

"He was a Frenchman of the name of Carrépèze, and had been reduced by misfortunes, the details of which I do not now recollect, from a respectable station in society, to the greatest poverty, which he had the anguish of sharing with his beautiful wife and his two young daughters. * * He consented to have himself instructed in the horrible art, and to place himself at the service of the Greek government, on condition that not only his true employment was to be kept secret from those who would wreak their vengeance on him, but that also it was to be strictly concealed from his own family. * * It was agreed that he should take up his abode at Egina, and work regularly as a mechanic, in order to avoid all suspicion of his real trade. * * Egina was formerly a favourite summer residence of the inhabitants of Athens, till, an hospital for lepers being established there, they were constrained to avoid it. There is still, however a certain society among the islanders themselves, into which the headsman and his family were received with the most flattering consideration. Strangers are always welcome in Greece, and in this instance the wife was too beautiful, and the daughters too young and gay, not to be the greatest possible acquisition. Soon they became well known and greatly beloved in the island, and one of the young girls was married to the son of the principal proprietor in the place. * * For a consi-

derable period his services were not required; but his inexorable destiny overtook him at last. A crime was committed, too revolting to pass unpunished. A man was poisoned by his wife; she was tried and condemned, and a ship of war despatched with the officers of justice to Egina, to convey Carrépèze to the island of Santarin, where the sentence was to be executed. When they arrived at Egina, the whole population hurried down to the beach, to ascertain the cause of so unusual a visit as that of a government vessel. The officers having landed, asked to be directed to the house of the public executioner. The islanders answered by laughing them to scorn, and declaring that they harboured no such character amongst them. The commanding officer, with a smile, inquired if they did not know a certain Carrépèze, and with considerable difficulty succeeded in convincing them that the man they loved and respected was, indeed, the common 'bourreau.' As the conviction forced itself upon them, one long loud shout of fierce anathemas rose with the name of Carrépèze through the air; their horror at having lived on such friendly terms with him, is not to be told. 'I shook his hand, his blood-stained hand, this very morning, as if he had been my brother!' exclaimed one. 'He lifted my poor child in his arms and kissed it!' shrieked a woman. 'But I,' exclaimed a young man, positively tearing his hair, 'I have taken his daughter to be the wife of my bosom, and the blood of the headsman is flowing in the veins of my children!' Thus lamenting and cursing, the natives followed the officers to the house of the executioner. He was not there at the moment; and when they asked for him by that title, his wife, with horror in her looks, so passionately denied that her beloved husband could have any claim to it, that the people of Egina began to doubt once more. Just then Carrépèze himself appeared; he saw at a glance what was going forward; he knew his doom, and without a murmur signified to the officers his readiness to accompany them. They surrounded him with a strong guard, otherwise the populace would have torn him to pieces. * * They took him away—that miserable servant of public justice. His task was soon performed; it was, perhaps, all the easier for the extraordinary conduct of the criminal herself. * * His task performed, Carrépèze returned to Egina, to his home. The same powerful guard was in requisition to conduct him to his house, and for greater security they landed at night, for they knew that henceforward the life of Carrépèze must hang upon a thread, unless he could shield himself from the certain vengeance of the people of Egina. When he arrived at the door of his house—his only refuge—the miserable man found it closed against him. Within, there was a sound of weeping and praying; but the wife he had deceived so long, whose love seems to have turned to loathing, persisted in shutting him out from her house, as utterly as she had driven him from her heart! It was in vain he expostulated; but the fact of his arrival had become known, and already the infuriated population might be seen rushing towards him in resistless numbers. He called out to his wife, that his life's blood was about to stain her very threshold, and then her heart melted to the father of her children! She opened the door, and he darted in, whilst the multitude raged round his stronghold, which they were only prevented from burning to the ground by the wish to spare his innocent family. * * One moonless night, when it was very dark, he stole out of his once dear home, where his presence was a curse, and went to breathe the fresh air on the beach. He had not advanced a hundred yards, when he fell prostrate to the ground, shot right through the heart; with so sure an aim, that he was dead before the shout of exultation, which followed his sudden fall, had burst from the lips of his avengers. The people had taken it in turns to lie in wait for him behind a certain lofty cypress tree, close to his house; and the two young men beneath whose bullets he fell, considered themselves most fortunate in having been the chosen of destiny for the execution of their purpose. Such was the fate of the last headsman of Greece, for I am not aware that any such functionary now exists there."

Our authoress describes the *villeggiatura* in the hamlets near Athens as full of enjoyment and beauty. Ere leaving Greece, she made a

short farewell excursion to the village where she had resided;—and found it as lovely as most familiar haunts look when visited for the last time.—

"The men were at work in the fields, and the women occupied in their cottages, with their household matters, principally in spinning the rough material which forms their winter garments, and preparing the provisions which would be required at the same period; laying out the ripe figs on matting in the sun, hanging up the golden bunches of Indian corn, and clearing the olives before they underwent the process by which their oil is extracted. In one spot only some little stir and animation prevailed, and most pleasing was the picture it presented. Beneath the wide-spreading branches of an olive-tree, so large as to afford a shade, impervious to the rays even of that burning sun, sat the good old village priest in his dark and simple robes, with a great copy, evidently very ancient, of the Greek Testament on his knees. Gathered on the ground at his feet, their quick, intelligent eyes fixed on him, and beaming with that desire for knowledge which is so natural to the Greeks, were some fifteen or twenty children, whom he was instructing with much zeal and patience. Our appearance was of course fatal to the attention which the pupils in this primitive school thought proper to bestow on their master; but the old man was anxious to show us that he was not always so unsuccessful, and he desired a little boy who sat close to his knee, to read aloud a passage from Scripture. I could not help thinking of St. Paul, brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, which his position seemed to illustrate as the child rose. His flowing hair, carefully preserved at its full length, proclaimed him a neophyte, or future candidate for priest's orders; and his countenance had much quiet seriousness, which seemed scarce suited to his age. He read with the most perfect fluency a few verses from one of the gospels in ancient Greek. As we left this very rural university, we met an individual in the street whom we were not surprised to see thus strolling about listlessly in the dangerous heat and glare of noon, for we knew that he was one of those men for whom the flaming sunshine or the cool moonlight were alike, since wherever he went the shadow of an awful crime was cast before him on his path by the light of his own sleepless conscience. It is strange that the fearful curse of Cain would seem to be self-imposed by most of those who have committed the same crime; and this man is assuredly a fugitive and a vagabond on the face of the earth, solely, as it were, by the retribution of his own will. The details of his history are well-known, and very striking."

We spare the reader a romantic tale of crime and murder, told with ostentatious solemnity and splendour of diction.—

"He saluted us silently as he passed us, for we had never been able to conquer our repugnance sufficiently to speak to him. We stood for a short time before the open khan, or public house, where, on the feast days, an incredible number of cups of coffee are imbibed, while the villagers crowded round us to take leave: even the old woman who is the wonder of the country round for her great age—for it is known that she has passed 110 years—hobbled down to see us for the last time. We were much amused at the look of profound disgust with which she assured us, that if ever we came back, we should be certain to find her still alive, for that she had given up all hopes of dying. She has a curious idea on the subject: she thinks it a judgment on her, for some sin she has committed, that she is thus condemned to live; and grumbles much at the severity of the punishment. * * The ride home to Athens, through the still cool evening, was very pleasant. Our road lay the whole way along the vast plain which spreads itself out at the feet of Hymettus, and directly before us lay the town with the sea beyond it, and the Acropolis standing out in strong relief against an horizon flaming like burnished gold."

Ere our authoress parts from Greece, she gives one of the most minute accounts of the Easter ceremonies of the Church that we recollect to have met with. She bears emphatic testimony, too, to the intolerable noises made by the Greeks under the idea that they are singing:

—doing, propensities, travellers as most never before and influ by the pr education the fol authoress Syra.— "Madam intimate fr twisting h ing and l saw me, s that if th steamer re with her. told me a with a sud told it wa age of sev Greeks w screaming fear she criel hers and bon- quitted M in the mo the migh close, ins destination nalist" im think it q to go thr most nois When a know to and cries timed w for burial Really in evil h heart," Pagan n Greek s times. "The was apal here it o of the la played o ever bel their co large Tu fin not and a pr round th me with probabl summed nophistic which is much of hours w Scio, wh Present pleasing turban, knew h reading the res robes, w This w "Are y negativ number allow h that th steamer could reserve lect m form, XUM

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—doing the fullest justice to their unmusical propensities. Recollecting the reports of other travellers and residents, she seems to us disposed to make the best of Athenian society. We were never before disposed to credit it with the tone and influence given to it (says our authoress) by the presence of antique beauty. Domestic education in Greece must be an odd thing if the following scene afford a specimen. Our authoress was on board the steamer bound for Syria.

"Madame T—, one of the passengers, and an intimate friend of our own, lay on the floor frantically twisting her hands in her long dishevelled hair, weeping and lamenting very audibly. As soon as she saw me, she exclaimed, in the most piteous tones, that if the machine could not be stopped, and the steamer returned to Athens instantly, it was all over with her. I asked what was the matter, and she told me that her little daughter had been seized with a sudden desire to return home, and on being told it was impossible, in laudable pursuance at the age of seven years of the invariable custom of the Greeks when their fate is too strong for them, had screamed incessantly for an hour, and was still screaming with a violence which made her mother fear she would go into fits. The child had certainly cried herself into a fever; but with the help of cakes and bon-bons, I succeeded in pacifying her, and quieted Madame T—, who was giving herself up to the most exaggerated grief, by reminding her that she might disembark the next day at Syria, if she chose, instead of going on to Jassy, which was her destination. * * The Greeks (continues our journalist) imagine fortitude would seem unfeeling, and think it quite necessary on all occasions of affliction to go through a regular scene of a tragedy, with the most noisy and theatrical demonstration of despair. When a death occurs, for instance, it is instantly known to the whole neighbourhood from the shrieks and cries which are raised by the family, and continued without intermission till the body is removed for burial."

Really the followers of Mohammed, enthralled in evil by a "fiend-like knowledge of the human heart," could not comport themselves in a more Pagan fashion! But our lady passes over the Greek shrieking leniently, as a relic of ancient times. On the water, betwixt Syria and Scio, we are shown something more attractive.—

"The little cabin in which I was to pass the night was apart from the rest; but I found I was not to have it to myself, for as I went in, the curtain of one of the larger berths was gently drawn back, and displayed one of the very prettiest living pictures I had ever beheld. Two young girls, evidently Scioti from their costume, were reclining together wrapt in one large Turkish pelisse, and from amongst this mass of furs nothing was to be seen but two beautiful heads and a profusion of marvellously long fair hair twisted round their little red caps. They looked timidly at me with their almond-shaped blue eyes, and then, probably thinking I could not understand them, resumed their conversation. There is a degree of unsophisticated simplicity peculiar to those islanders, which is very pleasing. These young Scioti displayed much of it as they talked together, and counted the hours which must yet elapse before they could see Scio, which seemed to be for them the fairest of spots. Presently the cabin door opened a little way, and a pleasing, venerable face, surmounted by a great turban, looked wistfully in. The intruder evidently knew he had no business there; but as I was sitting reading, his fine old head was gradually followed by the rest of his person, clothed in flowing Turkish robes, which are still worn in many of the islands. This was evidently the father, and his question, 'Are you asleep, my children?' received a vehement negative from the two lively girls, who poured forth a number of questions, and seemed most unwilling to allow him to leave them again. * * When I found that they were in a great fright at the notion of the steamer going on through the night, when the sailors could not possibly see their way, I overcame the reserve which makes the English, when abroad, neglect many acts of kindness we would otherwise perform, and began to speak to them. Their father then

left them quite relieved; and we became fast friends with that degree of rapidity with which friendships are made in those countries, and, strange to say, are often very true and lasting. They told me their whole history, and talked merrily half the night—they had passed their lives in Scio, and never left till their mother died a few months before, when their father took them to Syria for change of scene; now they were returning home to leave it no more, and fervently did they long for the first sight of their own dear island. When they found I had not yet seen it, they gave me a most poetic description of Scio, and of the life they led there. It was without question the most beautiful spot in the world, they said; to be sure they had never seen any other place, excepting Syria, yet still nothing could be so charming as Scio; there were such vineyards and gardens, so full of orange-trees and abundant streams of water; then it was delightful in the cool evening to go down and dance the romaica on the sea-beach, and watch the fishermen at work by torchlight. They pitied me very much for not being a Sciot. I asked them if they had ever heard of Homer, and they said they had not; then one recollected that there was a Monsieur Homero, who had died there last year, and they did not doubt this was my friend; and so they rambled on, till the rocking of their rough cradle lulled them to rest, and then rolling themselves up in their great pelisse, they went snugly to sleep.

"May 2nd.
"Scio, Scio! wake up and look up at Scio!" These words, uttered by two clear, ringing voices, woke me out of a sound sleep, at five o'clock this morning; and when I looked up, my two little friends of the night before were bending over me, their pretty faces glowing with delight. We had anchored only for half an hour, and I was therefore on deck as soon as possible. Their enthusiastic description did not really seem to have been exaggerated, for it is certainly a most lovely island. The luxuriance of the verdure, so rich and fresh, is quite striking; and the beautiful gardens sloped down to the very edge of the water, where they are bathed by the foam of every wave; the sunny brightness of the whole scene is very remarkable."

When we have further weeded out some passages from the Lady's chronicle of a few hours on shore at Smyrna, we must take leave of her pleasant book.—

"As soon as the sun began to sink, we set out, passing through the streets, rapidly filling with the population, just rising from their mid-day repose; even yet the air, heavy with the strong perfume, seemed as though it blew from a furnace. * * It certainly was this aromatic scent pervading the whole atmosphere, which brought so vividly before us that we were in the East in good earnest now. It proceeded principally from the various spices, which form so universal a commodity of merchandise there, and also from the penetrating odour of flowers, altogether strange to us, rising from the numberless gardens around. The doors of all the houses were now thrown wide open, fully displaying to view a sort of vestibule or outer hall paved with white marble, and amply furnished with sofas and cushions, where each separate family assembled to amuse themselves by watching the passers-by, and have the full benefit of the evening air, in this sedentary manner. We on our part found considerable amusement in examining the successive groups, whose 'intérieur' was thus laid open to our view. The party was almost always much the same. Two or three young girls extremely pretty, for Smyrna is famous for its beauties, talking and laughing together in their dainty little velvet jackets and embroidered slippers. A grave old papa lazily smoking his pipe, and winking owl-like at intervals; * * and an old lady seated on a great cushion, and dressed in a long fur pelisse, conversing with a kindred spirit very like herself, in a low mysterious voice, as old ladies are wont to do all the world over, according to their unalterable propensities, whether they carry on the conversation in Greek or in English. * * We enjoyed the shifting scenes of this panorama of domestic life, all through the town; and then we proceeded on by narrow quiet lanes, dark with the thick shade of the mulberry-trees meeting overhead, and green with the massive foliage of the prickly pear, and long clustering vines spreading themselves in wild luxuriance

far beyond the limits of the low garden walls. Here we had to employ ourselves, continually darting from side to side to avoid the large Turks mounted on small asses, who, jogging stoically along, looked neither to the right nor to the left, and threatened to run us down every moment. * * The Bridge of the Caravans is long and narrow, built over a rapid, winding stream, and connecting the town with a much-frequented road leading into the interior of the country. * * It is surrounded by a vast number of lofty and luxuriant trees, which renders the moving picture hourly to be seen on it still more striking. First, distinctly heard in the intense stillness of the air, comes the low tinkle of the camel bells, and then, appearing and vanishing again among the waving branches, the long undulating procession is seen to wind along the road. As they ascend the bridge, the varied objects of striking interest, which form as a whole so picturesque a scene, are gradually displayed in slow succession; then descending on the other side, the train is lost among the green woods and projecting rocks, till, long after, it may be seen, like a dark serpent, winding over the brow of the hill. At the head of the line, walks the demure and modest little donkey, leading, without bit or bridle, the whole procession, and under whose guidance alone, his magnificent companions will consent to move a step; and, meekly following him, a string of some eighteen or twenty camels move along with their own peculiar and graceful movement, and looking with their half-shut eyes as gentle and mild, as in reality they are vicious and dangerous. The drivers, who guide them by the voice alone, are mounted on their backs; the flowing draperies of their oriental dresses gathered round them, as they sit with folded arms musing thoughtfully. * * On one side of the stream, in an open space lying at the foot of a green and vine-clad hill, the whole of the gay world of Smyrna was assembled, reposing on seats placed beneath the shade of the numerous trees, or eating ices at the doors of the little fantastic cafés erected for their accommodation; and on the other side, directly opposite, lay the beautiful Turkish cemetery, with its mournful cypresses, its gloomy shades, its silence, its sadness, and its dead. * * All the Orientals were seated and silent, all the Europeans were walking about, talking and laughing, and looking exactly as Europeans do everywhere else, except that they were so thoroughly out of keeping with the landscape. The polished boots and yellow gloves, the bonnets and feathers, the cigars and fans, were quite insupportable under that gorgeous Eastern sky, and surrounded by all the striking attributes of Asiatic scenery. * * The hill rising above us is crowned by an old ruined castle, which, while it adds to the picturesque appearance of the town, is not in itself interesting, either from antiquity or historical tradition. Some of the party clambered up to it; but I preferred staying to watch the dispersion of the strange fantastic crowd around me. As soon as it grew dark, or rather (for it seems never to grow dark here) as soon as the flashing blue of the sky had deepened into an intense purple, and the painfully vivid glare been replaced by the soft faint starlight, the whole of the varied assembly prepared to return to their homes. The negro slaves gathered up the innumerable carpets and cushions, which they had brought for the accommodation of their Mahomedan masters, whose desire at all times to make themselves comfortable is so strong, that they regularly bivouac wherever they go, even for an hour or two. The gentlemen themselves, taking out their pretty little paper lanterns, proceed to pick their way through the lanes aided by their light, which is just sufficient to guide their own steps, and render the darkness more intense to their neighbours. * * On our way home, we passed an Armenian church, brilliantly lighted by the lamps which at all times hang before the gorgeous image of the blessed Virgin, all decked out in tinsel and gold. * * As we walked along, we observed that most of the population betook themselves to the roofs of their houses, in order to prolong the Kef so pleasantly commenced at the Bridge of Caravans."

Those who, like ourselves, love to make up a picture from many authorities, can hardly do better (the pleasure of contrast being also

secured) than turn from *this* Smyrna to the Smyrna of the Traveller from Cornhill to Grand Cairo.

The Camden Miscellany. Vol. I. Printed for the Camden Society.

The Miscellany of the Irish Archaeological Society. Vol. I. Dublin: Printed for the Irish Archaeological Society.

BOTH these productions have arisen out of an accumulation of short papers (each insufficient to form a separate volume) in the hands of two literary societies. The several councils felt that such curious and instructive matter ought not to be lost; and they have therefore resorted to this mode of publication. The Council of the Shakespeare Society set the example three years ago: having issued two separate publications of brief papers illustrative of the works of our great dramatist and of the stage as it existed in his time. A third volume of these is now in the press;—materials having been more rapidly furnished by the members than in the outset was anticipated. The Camden Society and the Irish Archaeological Society have come rather tardily into the field. Although the former has been so many years in existence, this is the first time it has put forth a 'Miscellany.' The specimen now afforded is sufficiently good to induce us to wish for a speedy repetition.

It consists of six articles—viz. 1. The Register and Chronicle of the Abbey of Aberconway, edited by Sir H. Ellis. 2. The Chronicle of the Rebellion in Lincolnshire in 1470, edited by Mr. J. G. Nichols. 3. The Pope's Bull on the Marriage of Henry VII., from a broadside, printed by Caxton, in the possession of Mr. Payne Collier. 4. The Journal of the Siege of Rouen in 1591, edited by Mr. J. G. Nichols. 5. A Letter of G. Fleetwood, describing the Battle of Lutzen, edited by Sir P. de Malpas G. Egerton, Bart. 6. The Diary of Dr. E. Lake, in 1667 and 1668, edited by Mr. G. Percy Elliott.

The first of these is in Latin; and requires no particular notice—since it comes down to no later a period than A.D. 1283. It is a relic derived from the Harleian Manuscripts; where perhaps it might as well have been allowed to remain. The contemporaneous account of the rebellion in Lincolnshire during the reign of Edward IV. is more to the purpose;—and has been very well edited by Mr. Nichols, excepting that he has rather over-noted the document. This is a fault to which he seems prone; since it attaches even more remarkably to the other article superintended by him in the volume. A man who knows so much as Mr. Nichols needs not be anxious to show how much he knows. The Bull of Innocent VIII. on the marriage of Henry VII. with Elizabeth of York was worth preserving; not only on account of the historical value of the relic, but because it is probably the oldest broadside in English—and a production of Caxton's press nowhere mentioned. Mr. Nichols has done good service in editing the Journal of the Siege of Rouen in 1591; because he has ascertained that it was written, not by Sir Henry Wotton, to whom it has been imputed, but by Sir Thomas Comingsby, who was an eye and ear witness of all that he relates connected with the service done by the Earl of Essex at that period. The narrative is as pleasant as it is authentic;—but, as we have said, we could have spared a few of the notes. Many of them are useful and necessary; but we do not want, at this time of day, extracts from Sully's Memoirs. No such fault, nor indeed any other, can be found with the contribution of Sir P. Egerton from his family muniments: Fleetwood's letter to his father well deserved

printing. The same may be said of the last article in the volume, the Diary of Dr. Lake, tutor to the Princesses Mary and Anne in the reign of Charles II. In various places this is very amusing,—and in some points the old divine reminds us strongly of Pepys, who left behind him the most entertaining relic of the kind ever printed—perhaps ever written. The particulars of the marriage of the Princess Mary with the Prince of Orange, given by Dr. Lake, are new and curious, and of some historical importance. We quote the following, because it for the first time connects a poet of celebrity with a well-known anecdote of Charles I. and his *Sors Virgiliana*:—

"Wee proceeded to mention the king's readinesse in foretelling events, and from this to his *Sors Virgiliana*, which hapned at Oxford in the time of the late war, and whilst the parliament sate there; viz. that his majesty being tired out with businesse and afflictions, resolv'd to recreate himselfe with some young noblemen who were students there, by pricking in Virgill for his fortune, which he did, and lighted upon Dido's curse to Æneas when hee left her [lib. 4, 615.—620].

At bello adactis populi vexatus at armis,
Finibus extorris, complexu avulsus luli,
Auxilium imploret, videatque indigna suorum
Funera; nec, cum se sub leges pacis inique
Tradiderit, regno aut optatâ luce fruatur,
Sed cadat ante diem, mediâque inhumatus arena.

Whereat his majesty seem'd much concern'd, but sent it by Mr. German, now Earle of St. Alban's, to Mr. Cowley, then student of Christchurch, to translate them into English, with a command not to acquaint him whose *Sors* it was; which Mr. Cowley did thus:

By a bold people's stubborn arms oppress,
Forc'd to forsake the land which he possess;
Torn from his dearest son, let him in vain
Seek help, and see his friends unjustly slain:
Let him to hold unequal terms submit.
In hopes to save his crown, yet loose both it
And life at once; untimely let him dy,
And on an open stage unburied ly."

The interest of 'The Miscellany of the Irish Archaeological Society' is, as might be expected, more local; but it is indisputably a valuable contribution,—principally by Dr. J. H. Todd, the learned secretary, Mr. J. O'Donovan, and Dr. A. Smith. The papers are fourteen in number; but most of them relate to Irish family history, and one of them belongs to a period that we should hardly have thought included within the researches of the Society—the reign of Queen Anne. Others go back to a much earlier date—to the times of St. Columbkille, and to the annals of Ireland from 1443 to 1468. There is one document of an intermediate date which we are desirous to extract on account of the light in which it displays one of the most important personages in our own history. It is a private autograph letter from Oliver Cromwell to his son Henry, when the latter was commander-in-chief in Ireland. The original is in the possession of Sir W. Betham.—

"Harry,

"I have receaved y^r letters and have alsoe seene some from you to others, and am sufficiently satisfied of your burthen, and that if the Lord bee not wth you, to inable you to beare it, you are in a very sad condition.

"I am glnd to heare, what I have heard, of your carriage, studye still to bee innocent; and to answere everye occasion rowle your selfe upon God, w^{ch} to doe, needes much grace.

"Crye to the Lord to give you a plaine, single heart.

"Take heede of beinge over jealous, least your apprehensions of others, cause you to offend, knowe that uprightnesse will preserve you, in this bee confident against men.

"I thinke the Anabaptists are too blame in not beinge pleased wth you, that's their fault, it will not reach you whilst you wth singleness of heart, make the glory of the Lord, your ayme.

"Take heede of professinge religion wthout the power, that will teach you to love all whoe are after the similitude of Christ.

"Take care of makinge it a businesse to bee too hard for the men whoe contest wth you, beinge over concerned may trayne you into a snare.

"I have to doe with these po[] men and am not wthout my exercise, I knowe they are weak because they are soe peremptorie in judginge others, I quarrell not wth them but in their seekinge to supplant others, w^{ch} is done by some in, first, by brandinge them wth Antichristianisme, and then takinge away their maintenance.

"Bee not troubled about the late businesse, wee understande the men.

"Doe not feare the sendinge of any over to you, but such as wilbe consideringe men, lovinge all godly interests, and men wilbe freindes to iustice. Lastye take heede of studyinge to lay for your selfe y^e foundation of a great estate. It wilbe a snare to you, they will watch you, bad men wilbe confirmed in convetousnesse, the thinge is an evil w^{ch} God abhors, I pray you thinke of mee in this.

"If the Lord did not sustaine mee, I were undone but I live, and I shall live, to the good pleasure of His Grace, I find mercy all neede. The God of all Grace keepe you. I rest

"Y^r lovinge Father,

"Ap^l the 21th, 1656. "OLIVER P.

"My love to my deere Daughter [Superscription], (whom I frequently pray for), For my Son, Harry Cromwell, and to all freindes.

This is a new contribution to the private character of the Protector; and serves, at all events, to establish the sincerity of his religious zeal. Portions of this volume will be intelligible only to those who are acquainted with the Irish language,—being necessarily printed in its own character.—And this reminds us to remark, with reference to the Camden Society's volume, upon the absurdity (we must call it) of here and there inserting a single Anglo-Saxon character,—just as well expressed by letters of our own alphabet, but increasing, probably, the cost of printing.

The Fall of Nineveh: a Poem. By Edwin Atherstone. 2 vols. Pickering.

We know not how many years ago Mr. Atherstone asserted epic claims in some books of the poem which now appears in a completed shape. Such a work, indeed, to be worthy of even a single perusal, must be the labour of years;—yet the one before us suffers disadvantage from having been commenced so long ago. The style of poetic diction that on its original appearance might have been acceptable, has since gone out of fashion. The tone of thought and feeling has become obsolete. When to these objections we add that the subject is of the ancient world, and precludes all allusion to the more developed interests of modern society, it is obvious that for such a poem there is little hope of popularity.

But we must not judge of poetry by the popular standard. The main question is—Is Mr. Atherstone a poet, and his assumed epic a poem? That he is a man of imagination may be granted; that he has acquired much facility of versification is evident; that his faculty of invention is considerable must be allowed. What wants he, then, of that which he professes? The self-intuition—the ideality—which give life and vigour to composition and stamp it with individuality. His poem is one rather of words than of thoughts. There is a pomp of phrases rather than a march of mind. The story is sufficiently well told—clear, straightforward, and intelligible; but it is wanting in episodal interest. The form is too historical;—general in its terms, and broadcast in its groupings. We require in the epic and the drama more special characterization both of person and motive. It is not enough that Sardanapalus should be presented to us banqueting amid his concubines—and the leaders of the rebel hosts declaiming against his

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tyranny and vices. There should be some well-derived instance of oppression—some incident involving passion and suffering and pathetic interest—skillfully wrought into a picture, and thus at the outset of the narrative vividly and distinctly impressing the imagination with its own peculiar details. Such a case being established,—such a point, however minute, secured,—the discussion of moral principles and the description of public business would naturally follow. The point would produce itself into the line and circle—the particular lose itself in the universal. But this first suggestion is requisite; and the absence of it stamps Mr. Atherstone's work with a vagueness highly prejudicial to its epic or dramatic effect.

Mr. Atherstone has great copiousness of language—but no opulence of imagery. We look in vain for tropical novelty. The lion, the tiger, and the bear—the zoological denizens of the old epic—revive in his pages. It satisfies him if he says for the hundredth time, "bold" or "fierce as a lion," &c. Repetition on repetition of the same worn-out image appals not our poet. He seems even to think that such time-honoured figures are of the essential *costume*, and befit the design, scope and character, of his work. Let such be accepted as orientalisms; still these stock similes are susceptible of modification—and in Eastern poetry are constantly modified—by the accompanying sentiment or reflection. Mr. Atherstone's poem is not abundant in beauties of this kind. His lines are easy and harmonious—may be read without trouble and sound well:—but they are too fluent. We want Milton's organ-stop. We long for impediment. There is such a thing in poet-craft as a fatal facility—an even flow of verse which, like a river, "wanders at its own sweet will," comporting well enough with a simple lyric or a brief narration. But epic or dramatic poesy should, like an ocean, be subject to storms and tempests. The Omnipotent and the Terrible, even though in repose, should be felt in it to be present.

As a specimen of the style attempted, take the following description of Queen Atossa.—

But beautiful amidst the beautiful;
Amid a bright heaven the one brightest star;
Austria's goddess queen; in regal state
Magnificent; to pomp imparting grace,
Triumph majestic; her lord to meet,
From the great central eastern gate came forth.
High throned upon a car, with gold and gems
Reluctant, slowly rode she. Diamond wreaths,
Amid her ebony locks luxuriant, gleamed
Like heaven's lamps through the dark: her ample robe,
Sky-blue, like to a waving sapphire glow'd:
And round one graceful shoulder wreathed, one arm
Of rose-tinted snow, a web-like drapery,
Bright as a ruby streak of morning, hung.
Beneath her swelling bosom, chaste warm,
A golden zone, with priceless gems thick starred,
Flashed gentle lightnings. The unresting fire
Of diamond and the ruby's burning glow,
With the pure sapphire's gentle beam mixed there:
The flamy topaz with the emerald cool,
Like sunshine dappling the spring meadows, played:
Gold was the clasp, and ruby. Bracelets light,
Of emerald, and diamond, and gold,
On each fine tapered, pearly wrist she wore:
And, round her pillared neck majestic,
A slender chain of diamond; the weight
Sustaining of one priceless diamond,
Like dawn faint blushing, radiant as the morn;
That on her creamy bosom, like a spark
Of sun-fire on rich pearl embedded lay.
With graceful ease, and perfect dignity,
Yet womanly softness; like a shape of heaven,
In majesty of beauty; pale, serene;
With eye oft downcast, yet with swelling heart
Proudly exultant on her gorgeous seat
Reclined, of Tyrian purple, golden fringed:
By all eyes mutely worshipped, she rode on.
So, when, victorious o'er the giant brood,
Back to Olympus came the Thunderer;
Imperial Juno; on her golden car,
By clouds of fire upborne; with smile of love,
Her lord to meet, and ether-brightening brow,
Through heaven's wide opened portals proudly rode.

Mr. Atherstone has many merits. His moral perceptions are always right. The ethical passages of his poem are uniformly orthodox, well and boldly expressed. But the apothegms are, nevertheless, such as at this date of the world

are mere truisms. These no longer need the embodiment of poetry. Psychological insight into motives and character—a bold interrogation of destiny—a graphic delineation of circumstance and disposition—

Obstinate questionings
Of sense and outward things—

these are the attributes, with others still more difficult, that should distinguish the modern epic.

In his war scenes Mr. Atherstone excels. His various actions are carefully discriminated and cleverly distinguished; the perils incurred are sufficiently made out; his heroes extricate themselves or fall by intelligible accidents. His battles are, in fact, vivid and distinct moving panoramas. One entire book, also, the 14th, is highly meritorious both in conception and execution.—Though not the work of a master, this epic, therefore, may be accepted favourably as the tentative effort of an intelligent and deserving student. He has done his best—and his aim was high. If he has failed, it was where the task required, even for its imperfect execution, a comprehensive grasp of mind and the command of faculties which belong only to the great spirits of the earth.

Results of Astronomical Observations made during the Years 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837, 1838, at the Cape of Good Hope; being the Completion of a Telescopic Survey of the whole Surface of the Visible Heavens, commenced in 1825. By Sir John F.W. Herschel. Smith, Elder & Co.

If our journal were merely and professedly scientific, we should not need to give to those who would then be our readers any preliminary account: we should say this work has at last made its appearance,—and then proceed to describe it. For our miscellaneous world, however, a little more may be necessary.

John Frederic William Herschel, who, in the abbreviations of his Star Catalogues, calls himself *h*, is to this day sometimes confounded by the unlettered public with his father, William Herschel, who is there denoted by *H*. The son has imposed upon himself—and has now finished—the task of completing what the father began. Among the contributions of Sir William Herschel to astronomy are to be reckoned the first extensive catalogues of *nebulae* and *double stars*, and some of the earliest views of their probable cosmical relations. He was an extraordinary combination of the observer and the thinker,—and ranks in the first class of both. Take from him all that he ever did *with* the telescope and at the telescope, and leave him only what his mind produced from the work of his hand and eye, and there are left a highly distinguished reputation and a career rich in its additions to astronomical thought.

Sir John Herschel inherits this two-fold power and two-fold industry. It is generally understood that the selection of astronomy as the main object of his scientific labours has been dictated by filial feeling—by the desire to extend his father's researches—and, if not to establish and extend, yet, as the French say, *arrondir*, his father's fame. Otherwise, as a man of many studies and a successful cultivator of them all, it is unknown to those who know him best—and perhaps to himself—which of them all he would have chosen as his principal occupation. This, however, is report. Sir John Herschel does not put forward the reason above given, nor any other, for his astronomical career:—and assuredly, to those who hold that a good thing is reason enough for its own existence, none can be wanting.

He commenced his telescopic researches in 1825;—using principally a twenty-foot reflector of his father's well-known mode of construction

and a seven-foot achromatic telescope of five-inch aperture. By the year 1833, the nebulae and double stars of the heavens visible in our latitude were observed, observed *upon*, catalogued, and published, at various times, in various philosophical collections. It was then determined "to attempt the completion of a survey of the whole surface of the heavens, and for this purpose to transport into the other hemisphere the same instrument which had been employed in this, so as to give a unity to the results of both portions of the survey, and to render them comparable with each other."

Sir John Herschel accordingly proceeded with his family and instruments to the Cape of Good Hope;—where he arrived January 15th, 1834. By the 22nd of February, he had set up his apparatus at a residence which he took, called Feldhausen, about six miles north of Cape Town, at the base of Table Mountain. Here he continued his observations during the years 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837, and a few days of 1838,—in which year he returned to England. An obelisk, erected by a subscription made in Cape Town, marks the exact spot which was occupied by the reflecting telescope.

It had been Sir John Herschel's intention to spread the results of this labour through the Transactions of the Royal and other Societies; but the late Duke of Northumberland—the Chancellor to whom the University of Cambridge owes the splendid equatorial now in its Observatory—offered to defray the expense of a separate publication. His successor, the present Duke, has fully performed the engagement of his predecessor: and this volume will be held one of the honours of the house of Northumberland as long as astronomy shall have a history, and the world continue to grow wiser—long after Chevy Chase shall be forgotten. The printing by Stewart & Murray, and the engravings by Basire, from Sir John Herschel's drawings, are both beautiful of their kind.

The first chapter is on the nebulae of the Southern Hemisphere. After an introduction, the positions and description of 1708 of these objects are given,—making, with those in the Northern Hemisphere, 4,023 of these objects.

Then follows a chapter on the law of distribution of nebulae and clusters of stars over the surface of the heavens; and results are announced of the following character:—

"One-third of the whole nebulous contents of the heavens are congregated in a broad irregular patch, occupying about one-eighth of the whole surface of the sphere; chiefly (indeed almost entirely) situated in the northern hemisphere, and occupying the constellations Leo, Leo minor, the body, tail, and hind legs of Ursa major, the nose of the Camelopard, and the point of the tail of Draco, Canes venatici, Coma, the preceding leg of Bootes, and the head, wings, and shoulder of Virgo. Within this area there are several local centres of accumulation, where the nebulae are exceedingly crowded,—viz. from 59° to 60° of north polar distance in the 13th hour of right ascension; as also (in the same hour) from 72° to 78° between the palm branch and the northern wing of Virgo; and again, in the same hour, from 80° to 87° in the northern wing and breast of Virgo. Northward the nebulous area terminates almost abruptly with a very rich patch between the nose of the Camelopard and the tail of Draco. The line of greatest condensation connecting these most condensed patches is irregular and wavy, without appearance of reference to any one particular centre; and the shading off, though patchy, is on the whole gradual."

Of several large nebulae very minute description is given;—and particularly of the famous *Magellanic clouds*, or *nubecula major* and *minor*, which have never been described to any purpose.

Next follows the catalogue of double stars. Of these objects 2,103 new ones are noted and roughly measured. About 417 of these, or of

those catalogued by others, are micrometrically measured with the seven-foot telescope, in 1082 observations. The principal object is γ Virginis, of which the predicted appulse of the two stars took place during Sir John Herschel's residence at the Cape,—and was observed by him as well as in Europe.

The chapter that then follows is a systematic inquiry into the apparent magnitudes of the stars, by observing them with the naked eye and writing down moderate sequences in order of brilliancy on various nights, and by connecting the various sequences. By this process about 260 stars are arranged in order of brilliancy. This is followed by some comparisons of the light of stars by the intervention of the moon. An image of the moon is formed by a prism and a lens of short focus, from which the eye is removed to such a distance that the moon (which will look like a star) shall resemble the star the brilliancy of which is to be measured. The greater or less distance at which this takes place affords the means. Sixty-nine stars are thus measured. The comparisons of the same star under different moonlights give it as the result that, from quarter-moon to moonlight, the effective impression of a star on the retina is inversely as the square of the illumination of the ground of the sky on which it is seen projected.

Chapters follow on the distribution of stars and the character of the Milky Way,—on Halley's comet,—a series of observations of the satellites of Saturn and of the solar spots,—and appendixes on the magnitudes of stars in the northern hemisphere, the places of 76 very red small stars, and points connected with the geographical position of Feldhausen.

This is the utmost that we can attempt to do in the way of a sketch of the contents of this most interesting and important work. It is such a mass of observations, deductions, and results as has rarely appeared at one time from one individual. Our readers must look to professedly scientific journals, or to the book itself, if they would know more of it. Few men who actually employ themselves in observation possess such power of working up their own material, or of describing either phenomena or consequences, as Sir John Herschel. He has a twenty-poet power of commanding descriptive language such as will make the reader imagine that he has actually seen what is thus verbally represented to him. He has thus a great responsibility:—his wrong descriptions (if there be any) are spurious phenomena.

The book before us is the result of the almost undivided labour of twelve years:—the average page represents ten days' work. We heartily congratulate the author on its termination, the scientific world on its appearance, and the venerable sister and fellow-labourer of William Herschel on the honour added to the name which she has also helped to illustrate and on this completion of a task the commencement of which she aided before those who are now grandfathers were born.

The Moore Rental. Edited by Thomas Heywood, Esq. Printed for the Chetham Society.

THE interest of this work, like the objects of the Society by which it has been printed, is chiefly local; but it possesses, nevertheless, some general features that entitle it to notice. It relates to property in and near Liverpool formerly belonging to a family of the name of Moore; the most notorious member of which was Colonel John Moore, who obtained considerable celebrity during the Civil Wars. The "Rental" was made out by his son, Edward Moore, subsequently to the Restoration,—when

the estates had undergone much diminution. Colonel John Moore left them in great embarrassment and confusion at his death in 1650; and, recollecting the active part which he had taken in favour of the Parliament and Cromwell, it is not to be wondered at that the circumstances of the family were not improved when Charles II. returned to the throne. Whether any, and what property remains in possession of Mr. Thomas Moore, the present representative, does not distinctly appear. We should imagine little, or none:—since, although he lent the manuscript to the Chetham Society, the editor treats the family very unceremoniously,—and is especially hard upon Colonel John Moore for the cause which he through life, as far as we can judge, honestly espoused. The following passage from Mr. Heywood's Introduction will serve to show the spirit in which the rest is written:—

"What chiefly attracts the imagination, in Colonel John Moore's life, is the poetical justice apparent in its termination. Here is a man, always acting with the dominant party, Puritan, Presbyterian, or Independent; signing, with the majority, protestation, covenant, or engagement; dying when his party were in the full career of success; himself occupying high and apparently lucrative places; and yet leaving his property in more irretrievable ruin than fell even to the lot of those whose estates he had been instrumental in confiscating."

Mr. Heywood is, in fact, throughout a violent partizan of the Royalists; and although he has executed his task with ability, we should have liked the book better if he had shown a little more impartiality. At page LI. we have a repetition of the same sentiments as above cited, with a triumphantly misapplied quotation on the final expulsion of the Moores from Liverpool. It is rather unfortunate, therefore, that the manuscript should have been placed in the hands of a gentleman who was so little likely to give credit to the motives of parties politically opposed to his own opinions; and we cannot but entertain some suspicion that the long memoir of Colonel John Moore was inserted for the sake not so much of illustrating the work as of enabling the editor to abuse many of those who, like the subject of his biography, were favourable to the establishment of a republic. Hence his criticisms upon Thomas Carlyle; and his assertion (p. XII.) that "Pym was the English Mirabeau." The Introduction to an antiquarian work of this kind ought to be as free as possible from the exhibition of party feeling.

The body of the work will be found adapted almost exclusively to parties who may wish to be informed as to the state of Liverpool some two centuries ago; since it relates very much to the particular portions of the town (then rising into importance in opposition to Chester) in which Mr. Edward Moore, the author of the "Rental," owned land or houses. It would, however, be unjust to Mr. Heywood if we did not admit that his notes are sometimes amusing and curious,—and possess a more general interest. We may instance his note upon witchcraft (p. 59)—although it contains nothing absolutely new; and another upon the cuckoo-stool (p. 28)—which he shows to have been in use at the commencement of the present century by the then head-master of Rugby School.

Edward Moore, who compiled his "Rental" about 1663 (Mr. Heywood says about 1667-8), introduces it by a sort of preface addressed to his son William,—containing some useful advice, both on the subject of religion and on his conduct in dealing with the world. One portion will be found very amusing; in which he instructs the young man how he may live at Brazenose College, Oxford, upon 30*l.* a-year. This minute information will surprise some of

our students of the universities. It is true that money would then go twice, or perhaps three times, as far as at present; but it would puzzle "a Battler" now-a-days to live at Oxford upon 60*l.* or even 90*l.* a-year. Edward Moore says:—

"When you go to the university, let it be Oxford rather than Cambridge, for two reasons; first, because Oxford is, by reason of the situation, far the better air, and in Brazenose College there are many peculiar privileges in favour of Lancashire men, which may be very advantageous for younger brothers, or such as must depend on their fortunes. I would not have you entered a fellow commoner, that being too high, and usually such as are so entered make little advantage there other than spend their moneys and come home less wise than they went. But I would have you entered a battler, which is the mean betwixt a fellow commoner and a servitor in this place. Being entered a BATTLE, thirty pounds sterling per annum will very well maintain you, as I shall thereafter give a particular of each charge to a penny: viz. four pounds for caution money to the College, for which the principal will give you a note under his hand to repay when you go from the College; five shillings for your entrance, paid to the vice-principal; six shillings and eightpence for entrance in the bursar's book; and two shillings and sixpence to the servants; and seven shillings for matriculation in the university, if he be the eldest son of an esquire, not else; this must be paid at your first coming. Then you must have a gown, of which you had best buy some old one—will serve as well, if not better than a new one. Be sure you let this tutor know you will not allow him to battle above 3*l.* a quarter; to the laundress three shillings per quarter; to the bed maker one shilling and sixpence a quarter; chamber rent five shillings a quarter; barber one shilling and sixpence a quarter; tuition, for your tutor, as you are but a battler, is fifteen shillings a quarter; shoe maker three shillings and sixpence a quarter; hire of your bed two shillings and sixpence a quarter; I mean sheets and all. In all, this makes four pounds twelve shillings a quarter, besides his clothes and his books. For cloth for your clothes, the best way is to buy them in the country. Remember that your cloth or stuff must either be black, or of a dark colour, no others being there worn, except by noble men's sons. Remember you pay at every quarter's end, and then not without his tutor's letter, and an exact account of what that quarter came to; by which you may see how it rises or falls, and whether your son be a good husband or not. Let the tutor have a most strict hand over him;—to be careful of your company, for many times young men are utterly undone by their company."

It is to be remembered that Edward Moore had been himself at College—and therefore spoke from his own experience.

It is perhaps hardly worth while to point out certain inelegancies in Mr. Heywood's style of writing. They are not numerous; but we are the more surprised at them, because he is a man of considerable reading in various departments.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Story of the Battle of Waterloo. By the Rev. G. R. Gleig, M.A.—Here is, indeed, the story of modern times—the legend which no tale-teller could spoil! We thought we knew by heart the romance of the Flight from Elba,—the strange, feverish, dream-like reign of one hundred days,—the thrilling muster at Brussels on the night of the Duchess of Richmond's ball,—the long vicissitudes of that June day which some declare even now we did not win!—and the abdication, momentous prelude to a rest for Europe which may Heaven keep unbroken for another thirty years!—yet, on turning to Mr. Gleig's "story," we found ourselves almost as much thrilled by its details as our grand-children will be when "*Sauve qui peut!*" and "*Up, guards—and at them!*" are repeated by the fire-side some sixty years hence. In truth, we were hardly in case coolly to examine how the chronicler has done his spitting; but we think well,—because it is done simply, and because he rarely interposes himself betwixt the reader and the combatant armies and their leaders. His tone, too, with regard to the French side of the story is com-

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incredibly clear of that triumphant insult which perhaps it was not in human nature that the party historians who stood nearer the period itself than we do should avoid. While we cannot wish to obliterate memory, we feel that her record is noblest when least proud or passionate. The victory speaks loudly enough without taunt of those against whom the fortune of war decided itself.—Finally, these make up two very interesting volumes of Mr. Murray's Library.

The Wayside Cross; or, the Raid of Gomez: a Tale of the Carlist War. By Capt. E. A. Milman.—A spirited and interesting little story; with somewhat too much of the material of the melo-drama of the country in which the scene is laid for the taste now happily developing itself in the novel-reading public. That public is beginning to seek for gratification in intellectual vicissitudes and revolutions of character—in states and struggles of mind.—in a word, to require moral interest. We are, however, only just rising into this higher and healthier condition: and it is scarcely fair to measure the work of a young artist by the standard which the veterans of the craft have but begun to acknowledge. There are youth and freshness about the book; and indications of talent which sanction a hope of better things when the writer shall have seen more of the world and studied more deeply the modes by which the human passions manifest themselves.

The Intellectual Family. A Tale, by Emma Ackfeld.—It is unlucky, to say the best of it, when a tale with a title of pretension like the above, gives in its first pages such irrefragable evidence of the writer's unacquaintance with her mother tongue. The style of Miss or Mrs. Ackfeld resembles nothing so closely as the talk of Deborah, the housekeeper in 'Tyne Hall.' Should any reader, forgetting that novel, have a curiosity to know what this was like, he has but to strike out the stops (or to put stops everywhere) to make singulars plurals and plurals singulars, and to mix personal pronouns in contempt of every rule and receipt propounded by Lindley Murray. Something like this is the manner of 'The Intellectual Family'—the matter whereof seems thereto conformable.

The Confessions of a Pencil Case. Written by Himself. Collated and Revised by J. J. Reynolds.—We might say without any violence to truth that the fittest reviewer of these 'Pencil Confessions' would be a piece of india rubber.—but as they are of the 'gentlest,' and the 'simplest' also, we may leave them to 'Time's effacing fingers' without further anticipating his work by the critic's.

The Land we Live in—is one of those periodical publications conveying much information as well as pleasant gossip in a popular and attractive form which have been issued so abundantly by Mr. Charles Knight. It is intended to form a pictorial and literary sketch book of the British Empire,—and is profusely illustrated with wood-cuts drawn and engraved expressly for its pages. The present number takes the topic more immediately of the day—though a topic of all time—as its theme. The interest excited by the coming transfer of Shakspeare's House from the hands which have long shown it, and by the efforts making to secure it for the nation, has given an especial seasonableness to all particulars relating to it and the locality in which it stands. Stratford upon Avon, accordingly, furnishes the subject of the present number; and the paper is illustrated by exterior and interior views of the well-known house in Henley Street and a map of the neighbourhood of Stratford. Stratford Church seen by moonlight and the chancel where the Bard took up his final rest are, also, among the embellishments.

The River Dove; with some Quaint Thoughts on the Happy Practice of Angling.—This book is produced with the appearance of being a reprint of some work in the spirit of Walton and Cotton originally published in 1687. It is, however, manifestly a modern production—designed to promote Puseyism under the disguise of a piscatory dialogue. There is much pleasant learning involved in the argument:—one piece of which concerning Petrarch deserves recording here. The impassioned poet is claimed by the writer for a brother of the angle, on the evidence of the following lines from one of his Latin epistles (Lib. iii. Epist. 3.)

Retia nunc sunt arma mihi, et labyrinthus error
Viminea contextus acu; qui pervius undis
Piscibus est carcer, nulla remeabilis arte:

Pro gladiis curvos hamos, fallacibus escis
Implicitos, tremulasque audes, parvumque tridentem
Piscator modo factus ego, quò terga natantum
Sistere jam didici, duroque affigere saxo.
Primitias en flumine transmittimus aris
Et versus quot Clausa domos habet arctaque Vallis,
Que tibi pisciculos et rustica carmina pascit.

Except for the theological heaven, this might have been an agreeable book.

The Angler's Companion to the Rivers and Lochs of Scotland, by T. T. Stoddard.—and *The Handbook of Angling,* by Ephemer.—are two other treatises less equivocally devoted to the same subject of angling. The first is, as might have been expected from the author, a work likely to become of considerable authority with the members of the gentle craft. It commences with the praise of the Tweed for its constant store of river trout and its occasional supply of salmon,—and with a description of the sport that may be enjoyed in its waters near Kello. A chapter is devoted to that famous stream and its tributaries. Honour is then rendered to the Forth and to the Tay: and other rivers receive their share of celebration—among which, of course, the Clyde is not forgotten. Pleasant it is to wander by loch and stream with such a guide and companion as Mr. Stoddard. The fisher will here find ample directions concerning his tackle, his fly-dressing,—and whatever else it befits him to know for the successful exercise of his profession.—Much sensible instruction regarding piscatorial matters may be gathered from the pages of 'Ephemer;' and though his work wants the attraction of that of our Scottish friend, its utility is apparent.

The Autobiography of an Artisan. By Christopher Thomson.—Another contribution to the People's Library, written by one whose boast is that he is a man of the people. Mr. Thomson, however, is not strictly an 'artisan.' He has seen service in many conditions of life:—made a voyage in a whaler, and perambulated the midland counties as a strolling player. He shows himself shrewd, sharp, and ready—but something bitter; is perpetually 'girding' at the rich, 'the righteous over much,' and the similar stock figures dead to aversion! This may be natural,—but it is not amiable; and since the class of authors to whom Mr. Thomson belongs seem to increase, and likely to form a library of its own, its writers must bear to hear that they may utter canter after its kind as false, and (in the large sense of the word) as vulgar, as *Sir Phineas's* sickly disgust of the 'unwashed' and such offensive fopperies of by-gone days. We shall never be accused of an unbrotherly or unkind spirit towards those of low degree,—still less of any propensity to encourage them in sycophancy: but the trading in class vituperation must be discontinued wherever it appears, whether in the artisan's room or in the ducal mansion. Evil must come from it to all classes.

The Life and Writings of the Rev. Dr. Chalmers. By the Rev. H. Davis, M.A.—A 'fugitive piece' of biography, without merits—or pretension.

Life and Conduct of Daniel O'Connell. By the Rev. H. Davis, M.A.—A pamphlet by the same author, of the same stamp.

Reminiscences of Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M.P. By a Munster Farmer,—will command more attention. This brochure professes to contain several facts little known. We cannot confess, however, to having discovered any novelty:—enough that the tale is told with a gusto sufficiently stimulative.

Six Weeks in Ireland. By William Bennet.—A description, addressed to one of the Ladies' Irish Clothing Committee, of the recent sufferings experienced in the sister land:—the proceeds of which are to be devoted to Irish relief. It is a business-like and straightforward account. The scenes of misery depicted come in this way with all the more force:—the naked fact tells more effectively than the most embellished narrative.

The Pleasant Art of Money-Catching.—An excellent old treatise—well worthy of reprint: to which is here added another equally quaint and wise—*The Way how to turn a Penny, or the Art of Thriving.* The style of both, so richly idiomatic and pregnantly symbolic, stands in distinguished contrast with that of our modern would-be-popular books.

A variety of those useful publications at this locomotive season of the year called Guide Books are before us.—Of these, the most striking is *A Hand-*

Book for Visitors to Oxford: illustrated by one hundred cuts. This is a valuable and costly publication—full of information as to the various institutions and buildings which make the interest of this fine city—and preceded by a well-written Introduction, giving a summary of the constitution of the aggregate University itself. Many a one may be tempted to Oxford by this reproduction of many of the venerable features of the place.—As a companion to this, though not similarly embellished and not so well printed, we may mention Mr. Percival's *Foundation Statutes of Merton College.* In the Introduction we find an interesting account of Walter de Merton, the founder.—Sir W. J. Hooker has prepared a popular *Guide to Kew Gardens*—which needs no sanction but his name. We have here for the first time the more remarkable features in the Royal Botanic Gardens pointed out.—*The Hand-Book to the English Lakes* bears the date of Kendal; and claims a local authenticity which its contents appear to justify. It is accompanied by a Map of the Lake District, and is further illustrated with wood-cuts—to say nothing of illustrations of another kind from the poems of Wordsworth. A list of rare plants adds to the value of the brochure.—*A Tourist's Descriptive Guide to the Isle of Wight* has also a Map—but its literary pretensions are slender.—*Sights, Amusements, and Exhibitions of London*, edited by Arthur Freeling, will enable the visitor to arrange his perambulations for the day without losing time.—We close the list with a word in favour of Mr. Cliffe's *Book of South Wales*—which describes at length, and with apparent precision, a large and important tract of country: and another in behalf of Grindlay's useful *Overland Circular*—which presents hints for travellers to India, detailing the several routes. It is accompanied with illustrative maps, neatly executed.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Akerman's (J. Y.) *Archæological Index to Remains of Antiquity*, 15s.
Anthon's (C.) *Ecliques and Georges of Virgil*, English Notes, 6s.
Barnes's (A.) *Notes on Corinthians*, by Cobbin, 1s. 8s. 2s. cl.
Betta's (J.) *Family Atlas*, with Index, new ed. folio, 3l. 3s. hf-mor.
Bridger's *Memoir of Miss Mary J. Graham*, 7th ed. 8s. 6s. cl.
Bree's *Railway Practice*, Third Series, 4to. plates, 2l. 12s. 6d.
Colling's (J. K.) *Gothic Ornaments, Parts I. & II.* roy. 4to. 21s. each.
Curren's *Records*—Extracts from Speeches, 8s. 2nd ed. royal. 1s.
Davy's (G.) *Volume for a Lending Library*, 3rd ed. 8s. 6d. cl.
Engineer's and Contractor's *Pocket Book*, 1847-8, 2nd ed. 8s. 6s.
Evans's (W. J.) *Sugar Planter's Manual*, 8vo. 3s. cl.
Gatty's (Rev. A.) *Thirty Sermons*, 2nd ed. 12mo. 3s. cl.
Lang's (J. D.) *Philippine Islands*, or, Port Phillip, 8s. 7s. 6d. cl.
Lang's (J. D.) *Cookland in North-Eastern Australia*, 8s. 7s. 6d.
Manual of Book-keeping, by an Experienced Clerk, 5th ed. 12mo. 4s.
Model Parish (The), 12mo. 3d. swd.
Moseley's *Quantity and Music of the Greek Chorus*, 8vo. 3s. cl.
Murray (T. B.) *Alphabet of Emblems*, 2nd ed. 8s. 2s. 6d. cl.
Newman's (Rev. W. A.) *The Martyrs, and other Poems*, 8s. 7s. 6d.
Nights of the Round Table, Second Series, 18mo. 3s. cl.
Pièces Choieses de l'Ami des Enfants, de M. Berquin, 11th ed. 4s. 6d.
Prophet of Galilee (The), a Poem, crown 8vo. 6s. cl.
Psalter (The), Psalms of David pointed for Singing, 2mo. 2s. cl. swd.
Roscoe's North and South Wales, steel engravings, 8vo. 15s. each. cl.
Robson's (J.) *Questions on Dr. Smith's History of Rome*, 12mo. 2s.
Schmidt's (C.) *Historical Tales*, 18mo. 3s. cl.
Starr's (Rev. H. W.) *Memoir and Remains*, 8s. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Steele's (W. E.) *Hand-Book of Field Botany*, crown 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Stewart's *Baptism and Offices of the Church Explained*, 12mo. 3s. cl.
Stowell's (Rev. H.) *Pope in England in Nineteenth Century*, 8s.
Summer Excursions in the County of Kent, 12mo. 5s. 6d.
Tucker's (Rev. J. K.) *Short Catechism on the Confirmation*, 18mo. 3d.
Wagner's *Questions to Virgil's Æneid*, Books VII. to XIII. 2s. 6d. cl.

THE SONG OF THE BESEGLED.

(For Music.)

Fling wide the gate—come out,
Dauntless and true!
Brothers! of heart be stout,—
We are but few.
Bring from the battlement
Our flag again,
Though by the leaguer rent,
It hath no stain.—
Mothers and wives! to prayer
From morn till eve,
The Lord of Hosts will care
For all we leave.
Plead that we sought not fight,
Nor chose the field;
But every true heart's right
We dare not yield.
All night the Foe did feast
With harp and horn:
Nor his loud insult ceased
Till the red morn.
Now, his gross rest he takes
Dreaming of blood,—
But not that Famine wakes,
And will have food—
Mothers and wives! to prayer!
As Heaven is high,
We will be quick to spare
And slow to fly.

We want no Stranger's throne,
Nor gold, nor wine;
But we must keep our own—
Hearth, Grave, and Shrine!

Who needeth trumpet blown,
To make him bold?
Who speaks in under-tone
Of ransom-gold?
Let such his counsel hide
In vault or cave:
We will not stay to chide
A willing slave.
Mothers and wives! to prayer!
Relief is nigh:
All we will do—ought dare—
Nor 'prisoned die.
For sure as fire doth blaze
And foams the sea,
Ye shall this night upraise
Songs of the Free!

H. F. C.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

[From our own Correspondent.]

I promised you in my last that I would write out from the notes I made at the time the sum and substance of Prof. Willis's architectural discourses on the Cathedrals at Norwich and Ely and the Church of St. Nicholas at Yarmouth. I shall now make good my promise, and tell what I have to say as briefly and clearly as I possibly can.

The first discourse was on Norwich Cathedral, delivered to a crowded audience in the Public Library.—Dr. Whewell, the President of the Architectural Section, in the chair.—It had been his lot, he observed, in the division of labour made by the committee of the Institute, to have invariably assigned to him the cathedral of the city wherein the Institute had been invited to hold its annual meeting. He had described Canterbury, Winchester, and York; and he had now undertaken, somewhat rashly perhaps, to furnish an account of the cathedral of the city in which the Institute was at present assembled. It had been his custom to supply a brief history of the cathedral which he described, and to contrast historical documents with the building as we now see it. A mere catalogue of dates and dated examples would unnecessarily fatigue the patience of his hearers; nor was it easy without block plans and diagrams to bring the building entire and in parts sufficiently before them. These, however, he had caused to be prepared. They were hung on the walls; and he would now, with the aid of history and the block plans before them, proceed to offer what observations he had to make on the cathedral which they had all so recently visited.

The three cathedrals already referred to had each been distinguished by some remarkable peculiarities:—Canterbury by its well-preserved and curious series of historical documents; Winchester by the mode in which a Norman cathedral was converted by the ingenuity of its architect into an Early Perpendicular; and York by the harmonious beauty of its proportions and its Early Norman crypt. A similar transformation as at Winchester was commenced at Norwich, but discontinued after a time. This, however, was not the leading peculiarity of Norwich Cathedral. The chief interest attached to the cathedral, in the eyes of the architect and antiquary, was the undoubted example which it afforded of a Norman structure. Herbert de Losinga translated the see from Thetford to Norwich in the reign of William Rufus. He built it on a site where no Saxon building had been before; and therefore we have a good example of a Norman structure by which we can compare and pass judgment upon buildings occasionally assigned to a Saxon period. In this cathedral, then, there are specimens of masonry nearly as rude as the so-called Saxon.

In the general plan of the cathedral there had been very little alteration since Herbert de Losinga's time; and the architect may refer to it with safety as an excellent specimen of a Norman cathedral. The choir, aisles, transept, and tower are Norman; and, what is more, Norman of two periods. This was proved by the variations in the bases of the columns and by the zigzag ornament around the arches of the later part of it; for it was a mistake to suppose that zigzag work was a leading characteristic of

Norman architecture, when, in truth, as he could show, it was not introduced into Norman work till a very late period. The eastern limb of the cathedral was usually called the choir; but the choir, in its ritual sense, included the space under the tower and part of the nave. This he had coloured blue; and here it was that the monks were placed. East of the choir stood the presbytery, leading from the choir by a flight of steps. He had coloured the presbytery yellow; and here it was that the tomb of the founder was placed, as nearly as possible in the most honourable and sacred situation. East of the presbytery (the space, as he should have remarked, assigned to the priests) stood the episcopal throne, which was raised so high that it commanded a view of both the presbytery and choir. The ruins of the episcopal throne at Norwich had been recently discovered. He knew of no other existing example in England; and the visitor should not neglect to see them. They were somewhat inaccessible, it is true; but the Dean and Chapter had kindly afforded on this occasion every facility for their inspection. The two apsidal chapels abutting from the procession-path at the eastern end of the choir were another peculiarity in Norwich Cathedral, but not so uncommon as some have supposed. There had also been a third or central chapel, unfortunately pulled down; for it was only of late that we had begun to appreciate and preserve the monuments of mediæval times.

He would now say something on the written history of the cathedral. The choir, aisles, transept, and tower were built by the first Bishop of Norwich after the conquest, Herbert de Losinga. The next historical record was that John of Oxford completed the church that Herbert had begun. But this he could not undertake to authenticate. This John of Oxford was the fourth Bishop of the see. The Lady Chapel was burnt in 1272, and a new one erected in its stead in 1283; but this had been recently taken down by Dean Gardiner to save the expense of repairing it. In 1278 the church was re-dedicated by William de Myddelton, Bishop of Norwich, in the presence of King Edward I. and many of his nobles. Further repairs were made in 1299, in the last year of Bishop Ralph de Walpole's holding the see. In 1361 a furious hurricane occurred; when the spire was blown down, and the roof of the presbytery seriously injured. The next event was a conflagration in 1463, during Bishop Lyhert's time, when the wooden spire was struck by lightning, and the wooden roof of the nave was burnt. This Bishop Lyhert rebuilt the spire of stone, and the roof of the nave of the same material. His rebus appears in several parts of the work. It was not, however, completed till 1498; at which time the perpendicular work which marks the Norman work was added to the choir, and the stone vault of the choir erected by Bishop Goldwell.

He would now turn to the consideration of the monastic remains. One of the first to explain the particular purposes for which the several parts of a monastic building were designed was Whittaker; who drew his groundwork from Fountains, in Yorkshire, which he considered to be the type of all monastic structures. Fountains certainly was a very interesting abbey, and was of use in assisting to explain the particular application of certain portions; but he (Prof. Willis) placed greater reliance on a ground plan and perspective of the Monastery at Canterbury made by a monk of that place, and preserved in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge. He would take that as a starting point from whence he could obtain general principles. Of the monastic remains at Norwich, the chief portion was the cloisters; commenced in 1297 by Bishop Ralph de Walpole, under the direction of Richard de Uppenhall, and completed in the time of Bishop William Alnwyck in 1430. On the east side is the entrance to what he would call the Chapter House, though others had chosen to consider it as the entrance to the Prior's Chapel. He (Prof. Willis) had paid great attention to monastic remains, and he could not conceive how it could have been intended for anything else than the entrance to the Chapter House. Here (pointing to the plan) was the door that led to the infirmary, here the door that led to the Guests' Hall, and here the door leading to the lavatories. It was much to

be regretted that so little remained of the offices attached. In the close were two pillars, a curious specimen of late Norman work—some say a part of the refectory, others a part of the dormitory—but after a careful consideration and comparison, he had come to the conclusion that they formed a part of the infirmary. The present deanery, he would observe, was the site of the priory. He would now turn to the Bishop's Palace,—a building of many styles and periods, but containing some capital Norman work of the time of Herbert de Losinga. The vault of the kitchen was a very fine one of the simple class, and afforded a good example of Norman domestic architecture; and the picturesque ruin in the Bishop's garden which many must have observed was the porch of the great hall. This was a new name for it, but it could be nothing else. The gateways he should pass over, because Mr. Britton had undertaken to say something about them; but he could not close his remarks without a reference to the Chancel Chapel,—consisting of two stories, a vault for the bones, and a chancel chapel above. This was built by Bishop Salmon, the successor of Bishop Walpole in the see of Norwich.

When the lecture was at an end, the Professor proceeded from the Public Library to the Cathedral itself; where he pointed out on the spot the several portions of the building to which he had made particular reference. But this portion of the Professor's discourse it would be impossible to describe without diagrams and block plans. One remark, however, your readers will thank me for preserving:—It was very unusual, Prof. Willis observed, to find two windows alike in Gothic architecture; but this similarity he could detect in the west window of Norwich Cathedral and the great window of Westminster Hall.

At Yarmouth (on the Monday of the meeting), the members proceeded to examine the Church of St. Nicholas—originally built by Herbert de Losinga—the William of Wykeham, as I have called him, of Norfolk and its neighbourhood—for he was the founder of Norwich Cathedral, of St. Margaret's at Lynn, St. Mary's at Elmham, and St. Nicholas at Yarmouth. St. Nicholas, Prof. Willis observed, afforded a curious example of the many changes which are made in parish churches. It might easily be supposed that when the population was small and their means limited, they built a small church; and the contrivances they adopted to enlarge it when necessary was a subject of much interest. Yarmouth Church was an example of a very curious practice. They would observe, that the church consisted of three aisles, and that the centre was narrower than the side aisles. This was unusual. If they examined a little more closely, they would find that the style of architecture of the central aisle was earlier than that of the side aisles. The result of investigation showed that originally there was a wide central and two side aisles. If they looked in the north aisle they would see that the upper part of the walls had originally been exposed to the air, and the original slope was in contact with the wall upon the arches; a low wall in the ancient fashion with small narrow windows making a smaller and a darker church. There was no doubt that this church was begun to be enlarged by taking down the low wall with its sloping roof, and erecting another wall on the south, probably before they took the old one down. One object being to prevent, as much as possible, any interruption of the services of the church, they began outside, and as funds were not easily obtained, it might be a very long work; they proceeded quietly till they had nearly completed, and then they took down the inner wall, put on the roof, and by that means obtained increased accommodation. These opinions were the result of examination, not only of the structure of this but of many other churches; and he was satisfied that this mode of enlarging churches, was very common. The south side aisle having been completed, the north one was commenced,—which is of a later date. This roof was very different from the low sloping one which he had already described. The walls were of equal height, and the roof of the side aisle nearly equal to the centre. In the churches of the middle ages the side aisles being low, to allow a sloping roof, the windows were very low; and the church derived light from what were called clerestory lights. This church was one of a different and bet-

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ter structure. When those aisles were erected in the way already described, the tracery which they then saw was not known. That dated between 1370 and 1380. The window jumbs, shafts, with arch mouldings, belonged to an earlier period. The three gables of the church were all of the Early English style; the middle one was the oldest, the south second, and the north still later. Those alterations all took place in about fifty years. Almost the only historical fact they knew of the church was, that it was commenced by Herbert de Losinga, about 1096; but in his opinion no part of that was remaining, but must have been taken down when the church was increased. The sudden and rapid enlargement of the church showed that they must first have had a small Norman church with small side aisles, and that then the south and afterwards the north aisles were enlarged. There was, too, another change that he would point out,—which was that the church had a great tower and transepts, and there was another enormous chancel, having a middle and side aisles.

This church, I would remark, is a very large one—more like a cathedral in size than a parish church. The repairs now in progress seem judiciously made; but the great difficulty will be in leaving the whole of the church open, which the architecture demands,—and in obtaining a hearing for the minister, without which the real use of the building will be altogether overlooked. The architect employed is Mr. Hakewill.

On our way to Ely, on the Wednesday of the meeting, we stopped at Wymondham to inspect the Abbey Church,—a very interesting specimen of several ages of Gothic architecture. Gray, the poet, had stopped here before us; and described the church in one of his recently published letters:—"All that I saw on my way else," he observes, "was the abbey church at Wymondham,—to learned eyes a beautiful remnant of antiquity—part of it in the style of Henry I., and part in that of Henry VI.: the wooden fret-work of the north aisle you may copy, when you build the best room of your new Gothic parsonage; it will cost but a trifle." Gray has here hit upon the leading beauty of the church at Wymondham. Nothing of its kind can be more exquisite than the wooden fret-work which he refers to.

At Ely, Prof. Willis delivered his discourse on the Cathedral in the cathedral itself: and his first position (for this was a peripatetic lecture) he chose under the south-east lantern pier. Ely, he said, was a much larger, more imposing and more magnificent cathedral than Norwich. The nave was late Norman, and very light for that style. It was a most magnificent Norman nave and as nearly as possible untouched. The presbytery was of the best order of Early English. The Galilee at the west end also Early English, and of the best character and time. Indeed, Ely Cathedral contains nearly a complete series of examples of the several styles—decorated work of most excellent execution, and perpendicular work that is extremely beautiful. Instead of the usual square tower in the centre, we have here an octagon lantern of wonderful beauty and proportion. It was easy to see how Sir Christopher Wren had adopted it at St. Paul's,—and how in supporting the cupola of his cathedral he had studied the way in which the octagon lantern at Ely was supported. This part of the structure would well repay attention. In settling the position of the choir and the presbytery, he would direct attention to the bosses on the vaulting. One boss representing St. Peter still remains, and this is immediately above the high altar. Another eastward of this, represents Etheldreda and the Virgin,—and immediately beneath this is the shrine of Etheldreda. Ely Cathedral was erected very shortly after Winchester Cathedral, and there was a very considerable resemblance between them—the dimensions, moreover, were nearly the same. Abbot Simeon, he would remark, who commenced the conventual church at Ely was brother to Walkelyn, Bishop of Winchester. Another cathedral with which Ely was associated in the history of its architecture was Lincoln; and he was happy to think that the Institute would be at Lincoln next year, and he would then have an opportunity of explaining this connexion—always an interesting point in studying the progress of architecture. And here he could not but express his regret that the side aisles of the south transept are still blocked up. Much had been done, and in excellent taste, by

the present Dean;—and he really hoped that before long the side aisles would be again thrown open. He scarcely could trust his eyes when he contrasted Ely Cathedral twenty years ago with Ely Cathedral as he now saw it. Twenty years ago, there was the green damp plentifully about it, more whitewash than he cared to see, and a great economy of glass. Now, the green damp was nowhere to be seen, the whitewash had been scraped away, the vaulting cleaned, and the stone exhibited in its native colour.

I am afraid I have given you too much architecture for a single paper,—and will therefore close my notebook. I would wish, however, to express my surprise at Gray's admiration of Bishop West's chapel,—made up of the pure ornaments of the late perpendicular period with the debased French style of Francis I. He must have meant Bishop Alcock's chapel in the same cathedral—a much better example; but be this as it may, he succeeded in misleading Walpole in his Anecdotes into the same taste. Nor can I conclude without expressing my general admiration of the renovations at Ely under the present enlightened Dean;—though the design for the painted ceiling of the southern transept of the western tower is sadly deficient in geometrical harmony of colour. Perhaps the Dean will look to this.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

On last Saturday morning the *Times* announced from Mr. Hind, the observer at Mr. Bishop's private observatory, the discovery of a new planet—one of the group of *goddesses*. He had the boldness to risk the announcement upon the observed motion of *one hour*;—and his confidence in his instrument and himself has been justified by the result. The following letter to the *Times*, which appeared on Wednesday, is worthy of insertion:—

THE NEW PLANET IRIS.

Sir,—In addition to the Berlin maps, which we have revised, and in some instances corrected, eclipical charts of stars down to the tenth magnitude have been formed for some of the hours of right ascension, which it is Mr. Bishop's intention to publish as soon as they are completed. On the 13th of August I compared Wolff's map with the heavens, and was surprised to find an unmarked star of 8.9 magnitude in a position which was examined on June 22 and July 31 without any note being made. The mere existence of a star in a position where before there was none visible would not have been sufficient to satisfy me as to its nature; because during an eight months' search I have met with very many variable stars,—a class which I believe to be far more numerous than is generally supposed. But, on employing the wire micrometer we were enabled in less than half an hour to establish its motion, and thus to convince ourselves that I had been fortunate enough to discover a new member of the planetary system. It may appear to many of your readers rather bold to announce the existence of a new planet from the detection of so small an amount of motion as 2.5 in R. A.; but such is the firm mounting of the large refracting telescope and the perfection of the micrometers (for which we have to thank Mr. Dollond), that a far smaller change would have been sufficient to convince us as to the nature of the object in question.—Mr. Bishop has fixed upon *Iris* as an appropriate name for the new planet; and we hope that astronomers generally will join with us in its adoption. The following are all the observations we have yet made:—

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I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. R. HIND.

Mr. Bishop's Observatory, Regent's Park, Aug. 17. This observatory of a London manufacturer of wines and spirits has, now, added *three comets* and a *planet* to our system;—to say nothing of other work!—We may add that the planet was observed at Cambridge on the 14th, and at Greenwich on the 15th. With a low power its light is very intense, but no disc is apparent. The low altitude and the weather have been rather against observations of its appearance.

The question of the national purchase of Shakespeare's house is now coming,—with not a day to spare, however,—to an issue. A meeting is advertised to take place at the Thatched House Tavern on Thursday next for the purposes of forming a Central Metropolitan Committee and organizing a general subscription. Communications on the subject are to be addressed to Mr. Rodd, the agent of the Shakespeare Society:—and we are authorized to state that subscriptions for the object will be received at the Thatched House Tavern. Any of the societies already announced in this paper as having taken the

ground of co-operation in the matter will, we believe, also receive subscriptions and hand them over to the general fund.—While on the subject of this sale, a curious coincidence may be mentioned on the authority of the *Dumfries Courier*. That paper states that the house in which Burns—the greatest of Scottish bards—lived for many years, and died, is in the market at the same moment as the house of the greatest of *all* bards.

The estimated cost of the new building for the Public Records is stated to be 175,000!—the fittings 31,500!. The houses and grounds which it will be necessary to purchase—including the erection of several short streets in the immediate neighbourhood—will occasion a further outlay of 243,000!—making a total cost of 450,000!.

It is stated that the Danish poet Andersen—who has been amongst us for some weeks past, and is now on a visit to Scotland—has received an invitation for Osborne House—now transferred, in consequence of the movements of both parties, to the royal residence in the Highlands. Royal invitations to men of literary fame are so much matters of course in the States of the continent—where genius is rank—that they would not be likely to strike any stranger coming amongst ourselves as anything at all extraordinary. But while we hope the report may be true in the case of our distinguished guest—not for his sake, but as evidence of an improving tone in high places among ourselves—the fact which it announces is so entirely out of the order of proceedings at the court of a modern English sovereign that, we feel, it wants authentication.

It may be interesting to such of our readers as still linger so near the great Centre to know that Her Majesty has given permission for the public to be admitted to view the royal aviary and the Queen's dairy in the Home Park, close to Frogmore, and within ten minutes' walk of the town. The aviary will be open to public inspection every day in the week, with the exception of Sunday, between the hours of eleven and four. Tickets must be applied for to Mrs. Engall, at the royal dairy—who has received orders to furnish them to all respectable parties. The great number of rare and curious birds (foreign as well as English) to be seen at the royal aviary renders it one of the most interesting ornithological collections in the kingdom.

One of the model lodging-houses was opened last week—where its example will be of great use—in George Street, St. Giles's; and it is pleasant to see, as we do in daily passing it, mechanics casting longing looks at the temptation of its comfortable and wholesome appearance. The committee have now added for the use of its occupants a valuable library,—consisting of 400 volumes of books, comprising history, travels, biography, and other well-selected works. Amongst the contributors to the library are the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge and the Bishop of Norwich. Lectures will also be given by a committee of sixteen gentlemen, who will alternately discuss on some interesting and popular subject. The reading-room is furnished with newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals.—We may mention in the same paragraph that the commissioners appointed to construct baths and wash-houses for the labouring classes have commenced the erection of a spacious building for that purpose on a plot of ground granted by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests in Orange Street, Leicester Square. Two hundred private baths for both sexes, a spacious washing-room, with hot closets for drying and steam apparatus for the supply of hot and cold water, are to be constructed—the estimated cost being 5,000!., which will be raised by a rate on the inhabitants of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. The water for the use of the establishment will be obtained from the artesian wells supplying Trafalgar Square; and it is anticipated that the concern will not only be self-supporting, but also yield a considerable profit to the parish.—A proposition has been made to the civic authorities to convert the west side of Farringdon Market, next Shoe Lane, which for upwards of four years has been totally uncoccupied, into public baths and wash-houses for the labouring classes. It is said that nothing is required but the internal fittings to convert this useless property to a benevolent, sanitary, and profitable use.—We cannot record these various steps in the sanitary cause, without alluding to a

meeting which was held at the London Coffee House some days ago, for the purpose of promoting a subscription for the widow and children of the late Dr. Lynch—who was so long an earnest labourer therein. The chair was taken by Mr. E. Chadwick; resolutions were unanimously passed pledging the meeting to impress upon the Government and the Corporation of London the necessity of providing for Dr. Lynch's survivors; and a committee was appointed to confer with the Government and the city authorities. Among the subscribers are already the names of Lord John Russell, Lord Morpeth, the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Ashley, the Bishop of Norwich, Lord Ebrington, and others taking an interest in the moral improvement of the public.

We may mention, as belonging in some measure to the same subject, that the funds of King's College Hospital have been recently increased by a legacy—under the will of the late Miss Colyer, of Farningham, Kent—of 1,000*l*.

The *Nottingham Review* announces the opening of "the People's College erected by voluntary contributions for the education of the working classes of Nottingham and its neighbourhood for ever."

From Edinburgh, it is stated that Dr. Cunningham is to succeed Dr. Chalmers as Principal of the New College—and be succeeded by Dr. Candlish as Professor of Divinity.

We record with pleasure all the instances of intellectual progress and self-reliance in the provinces.—A handsome building for literary purposes has been recently erected at an expense of more than 3,000*l*. by the public spirited inhabitants of Wisbeach; a town with a population of 10,000, and chiefly known in the commercial world as the natural capital of the Fens, or Bedford Level, and the most important port in England for the export of wheat. The new building, is in the Doric style,—the architect Mr. Buckler. It contains extensive apartments for a museum of natural history, antiquities, &c.—the nucleus of which had existed for some years in the town; and for a valuable public library—established as long since as 1781, and which, like the museum, had outgrown the accommodation hitherto provided. It affords, besides, a commodious residence for a curator.—At the recent inauguration of the new museum, an appropriate address was delivered to a crowded audience by the President of the Museum and Literary Society, the Rev. Henry Fardell, Vicar of Wisbeach and Canon of Ely; and was followed by a lecture on geology, in which the geological structure and general topography of the Bedford Level was detailed with ample illustrations, by Prof. Sedgwick. Among the members of the Wisbeach Museum we are glad to find the names of the Bishop of Ely, the Duke of Bedford, Custos of the Isle, the Marquis of Northampton, the Earl of Hardwicke, Lord Lieutenant of the County, the Dean of Ely, and Prof. Sedgwick.

We have received from Mr. Parker an explanation of the publication in *Fraser's Magazine* of the translation from M. Ferry's Mexican Scenes—to which we alluded last week—that exonerates him and all others from the charge brought by our correspondent. The paper alluded to, 'José Juan, the Pearl Fisher,' does appear in the last number of the magazine without any indication of its being a borrowed article: but Mr. Parker shows that as far back as January last he had inserted in the same publication a translation of another of M. Ferry's Mexican Scenes; acknowledging in a footnote the source from whence it was derived—and announcing his intention to draw further upon the volume. This explanation "explains" also how our correspondent was led into his mistake—but does not, we think, leave him justified. Persons bringing charges are bound to make no mistakes that by care can be avoided: and our correspondent should have made more minute inquiry ere he assumed a case like that charged against Mr. Parker or his contributor.

A curious example of the ingenuity of the advertising spirit is given by the continental papers.—A mercantile house at Berlin has proposed to the various railway companies of Germany to supply all their carriages with silk blinds gratuitously. They simply propose to reserve to themselves the right of changing the blinds as often as they may please; and they require the companies to engage themselves not to

accept during fifty years, either for money or gratuitously, any blinds but theirs. Their object is to cover the blinds with advertisements.

A valuable discovery is stated to have been made at Berlin. The Rev. Dr. Heine, recently returned from exploring the libraries of Spain for the purposes of ecclesiastical history, brought with him several rolls of parchment which he purchased from a bookseller—and which he presented to the Royal Library. One of these was found to be a Palimpsest: which, on examination by M. Pertz, proves, it is said, to be a fragment of the lost books of Livy—probably of Book 98. The writing is stated to bear evidence of the highest antiquity—and may even be of Livy's own age. The Academy of Sciences at Berlin has examined the manuscript—and determined on publishing an engraved fac-simile.

At Parma, the construction of a new astronomical and meteorological observatory has been commenced under the direction of Signor Carlini, of Milan. It is to be furnished with valuable instruments—but will not, it is expected, be completed before the close of 1849.

A congress of European Reformers on the subject of Prison Discipline, adjourned from that which was held last year at Frankfurt, is to assemble in the Gothic Hall of the Hotel de Ville at Brussels on the 20th and 25th of next month. The order of the deliberations has been already arranged by a committee of organization which met there on the 12th inst.

We have visited an exhibition of the improvements effected by Messrs. Brett and Little of Farnival's Inn in the construction and working of that marvel of modern science, the electric telegraph—and will borrow a description of the same for the information of our scientific readers:—"The inventions of Messrs. Brett and Little aim at increasing the efficiency of the electric telegraph, in the first place by generating and economizing a more constant and powerful electric current; and secondly, by a new arrangement of the dial and indicator, insuring that communications may be made more safely and certainly than by the system now in use. The increased power is attained by a process which frees the copper and zinc plates in the batteries from the sulphate of zinc which ordinarily accumulates upon them, and which soon diminishes their force. Messrs. Brett and Little's apparatus consists of three troughs, placed one above another. The highest is a reservoir containing the exciting power, a diluted sulphuric acid; the middle trough is the galvanic battery, containing the copper and zinc plates, divided by cells or compartments of fine sand; and the lowest trough receives the vitiated liquid, which, having slowly dropped from the reservoir into the battery, has filtered through the sand in the latter, and thence percolates drop by drop into the receiving trough below. The diluted sulphuric acid drops from the reservoir into the galvanic battery through small cones perforated at the bottom,—and is carried from the bottom of the galvanic trough by corresponding cones and perforators into the receiving trough. The sand which surrounds the metallic plates is thus constantly saturated; and, as a constant supply of fresh acid is kept up, and the vitiated fluid as constantly escapes below, the formation of crystals of the sulphate of zinc is prevented by this self-cleansing process, and the whole surface of the plates is exposed to the action of the acid. The fluid in the receiving-trough is found to contain large quantities of the sulphate of zinc, which would in the ordinary mode have adhered to the plates and prevented the action of the acid upon the metal. The second feature in the invention of Messrs. Brett and Little is the new alphabet, and the altered face of the dial adopted by them. The indicators attached to the dials hitherto in use are generally magnets; and their incessant vibration through electrical and other disturbing atmospheric causes has produced much uncertainty and confusion in communications. The indicators in the dial before us are not magnets, and show no vibration whatever. Another point of difference is that in the dial of Messrs. Brett and Little every letter in the alphabet is given, with the means of expressing it,—so that no symbols or arbitraries need be used, and a sentence may be perfectly and entirely spelled, and transmitted as it is written."—In one of their rooms the patentees have seventeen instruments

fitted up to represent seventeen stations; and the electric current passes through coils of wire, to each of these instruments, equal to 1,000 miles in length. There are other devices and improvements in the same exhibition,—such as a new and ingenious bell-apparatus, lightning-conductors, and insulator. The whole is well worthy the attention of scientific men.

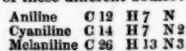
ST. MARK'S, VENICE.

DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.—NOW OPEN, with a new and highly interesting Exhibition, representing the INTERIOR of ST. MARK'S, at VENICE, justly considered one of the most magnificent temples in the Christian world; and a VIEW of TIVOLI, near ROME, with the Cascades, &c. The picture of ST. MARK'S is painted by M. Diosse (pupil of M. Daguerre), from drawings made on the spot expressly for the Diorama by the late M. Ronzani. The View of Tivoli is painted by M. Boutin. Both pictures exhibit various novel and striking effects of light and shade. Open from Ten till Six. —Admission, Saloon, 1*l*; Stalls, 2*s*.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—COLLINS'S GALLERY.—The PASSIONS will be recited by Mr. J. RUSSELL, with Illustrations in a Series of Drawings magnified by means of the Optical Microscope, accompanied by Music by Dr. Wallis, on the Mornings of Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, and on the Evenings of Tuesday and Thursday. Dr. Bachoffner's Lectures on Natural Philosophy will comprise the subject of the Electric Telegraph, &c. Chemical Lectures by F.H. Holmes, Esq., on the Evenings of Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The beautiful Optical Effects include the Dissolving Views, Diving Bell and Diver, with Experiments, &c. &c. —Admission, 1*l*; Schools, Half-price.

SOCIETIES

ROYAL COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY.—July 28.—Sir James Clark in the chair.—This being the last meeting of the session, Prof. Hofmann gave a sketch of the scientific researches which had been conducted in the laboratory of the College:—and concluded it by a glance on the present direction of organic chemistry, and by a sketch of some experiments undertaken by himself. He stated that analytical chemistry naturally precedes synthetical chemistry. After analysis had pointed out the composition of a variety of minerals, the chemist succeeded in preparing them artificially. In like manner the efforts of those hitherto engaged in organic researches were principally directed to the composition and constitution of those substances which are produced with the assistance of the vital process in the plant or in the animal; but he had no doubt that the synthetical formation, the construction of those substances, was by no means beyond the reach of chemical achievement. Gum, starch, sugar, and the vegetable alkaloids we might expect to form in our laboratories without the assistance of plants. The lecturer alluded to the remarkable analogy of quinine and morphia with some products lately obtained by chemical processes from naphthaline,—a substance abundantly obtained as a secondary product in our gasworks, but useless and without application up to the present moment. He hoped to see soon naphthaline converted into quinine. The present method of organic researches having principally in view to recognize the constitution of organic compounds, yielded in most cases substances of a more simple nature; whilst nature worked in a progressive manner, building up, as it were, the most complicated bodies from the simplest constituents. All vegetable substances were formed from carbonic acid, water, and ammonia. Now, chemists should direct their attention to new methods, imitating to a certain extent the processes of nature, in order to convert substances of an inferior into compounds of a higher order,—into more organized compounds. The lecturer mentioned that he had made some experiments with the intention of raising the amount of carbon and nitrogen in organic substances. He had for this purpose tried the action of cyanogen and chloride of cyanogen, gases containing a large quantity of carbon and nitrogen, on several organic bodies. Aniline from an oily organic alcohol is converted by such treatment into two new organic bases, which Dr. Hofmann calls Cyaniline and Melaniline; the atoms of which are of a far higher order than that of Aniline,—as may be seen by a glance on the formula of these different bodies:



Now, these substances contain no longer cyanogen,—at least it cannot be recognized by the usual reagents. In conclusion, the lecturer mentioned that he was going on with these researches,—the result of which he would communicate as soon as they were finished.

After Dr. Hofmann's lecture, Prof. Alfred Taylor gave an account of the manner in which French printellers are increasing the number of proof copies

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to the great detriment of the purchasers. He showed that they had adopted the system of giving the paper a slight coating of carbonate of lead, which rendered the impression more perfect after the plate had become deteriorated; but that this was very soon converted into sulphide by the action of sulphuretted hydrogen constantly floating in the atmosphere of large towns, and by which interchange the print was destroyed. The presence of lead on this paper was shown by experiment. Prof. Taylor then stated that the brown colour of Valenciennes lace was due to a similar cause; the manufacturers sprinkling it with carbonate of lead, to make it look clear, which, being changed into sulphide on exposure to the air, gave the lace the dingy appearance so much prized by ladies.

BOTANICAL.—Aug. 6.—J. Reynolds, Esq., in the chair.—Various donations were announced, and Members elected. Miss C. Wilkins presented a specimen of *Bulbine planifolia*, discovered by her in a fir plantation, about two miles distant from Bourne, in July last. The specimen agrees so well with the description of the *Bulbine planifolia* in the 'Flora Italica' of Bertolini, and with the plates there referred to, as to leave no doubt of its being that plant which is the *Authenticum bicolor* of the 'Flora Atlantica.' On very slender characters it has been made into a distinct genus by Kunth, who describes it under the name of *Simethis bicolor*.

The following papers were read:—'On the description of some of the Hieracia' by Mr. Babington in his 'Manual of British Botany,' by Mr. J. Bladon; 'Notice of the discovery of *Allium sphaerocephalum*, L., on St. Vincent's Rocks, Bristol,' by Mr. H. O. Stephens; 'On the Potato Disease,' by Dr. P. B. Ayres; and 'On the Potato Disease,' by Mr. W. Taylor, F.L.S.

FINE ARTS

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

THE Royal Commissioners on the Fine Arts have just put forth their seventh Report—seven in less than seven years. It is a folio of two-and-twenty pages; containing a short general Report, signed by twenty of the Commissioners—and an appendix of nine different articles. In the general Report, the Commissioners observe, "that the evidence of ability afforded, not only by the works of the successful candidates, but by those of many others, have been most satisfactory;" and "that several of the artists who had before distinguished themselves in cartoon-drawing have shown, by their works exhibited on this occasion, that they are well qualified to execute oil pictures on a large scale." The Commissioners, moreover, express their approbation of the statues of Hampden, Clarendon, and Falkland—already in a forward state;—and further recommend that eighteen metal Magna Charta Barons and prelates should be executed, at once, for the vacant niches in the newly-opened House of Lords: while they subjoin to the Report of a sub-committee which they had appointed "to determine a complete scheme" for the decorations of the New Palace. Her Majesty has approved the Report. A sum of 2,700*l.* has already been voted "to defray the cost of models for the statues; and the following nine sculptors have been selected to execute the models:—J. Thomas, J. E. Thomas, P. McDowell, R. A., W. F. Woodington, H. Timbrell, J. S. Westmacott, J. Thornycroft, F. Thripp, and A. H. Ritchie. Each artist has two statues."

The only really valuable part of the seventh Report is the Report of the sub-committee on the distribution of works of Art over the seventeen places set apart for their reception. This Report has been received and approved; and we may, therefore, refer to it as embodying "a complete scheme" of what the Commissioners intend. St. Stephen's Porch will contain two statues, of Marlborough and Nelson,—and two paintings, in compartments, of Peace and War. St. Stephen's Hall, as standing on the site of the old House of Commons, will be adorned with the statues of men who rose to eminence by the eloquence and abilities which they displayed in that House; and the walls will be decorated with paintings illustrating some of the greatest epochs in our constitutional, social and ecclesiastical history. The Central

Hall is set apart for the reception of St. George, St. Andrew, St. Patrick, and St. David. The Peers' Corridor and the Commons' Corridor will be decorated with paintings "illustrative of that great contest which commenced with the meeting of the Long Parliament and terminated in 1689." The Central Corridor is designed for the exhibition of six paintings, in compartments, by way of contrast; and the six selected are,—'The Phenicians in Cornwall,' 'Cook in Otaheite,' 'A Druidical Sacrifice,' 'English Authorities stopping the Sacrifice of a Suttie,' 'Anglo-Saxon Captives exposed for Sale in the Market-place at Rome,' and 'The Emancipation of Negro Slaves.' The Upper Waiting Hall is set apart for subjects from six English poets—Chaucer, Spenser, Shakspeare, Milton, Dryden, and Pope. The House of Lords will contain a series of Scripture subjects "with reference to the idea of Justice on Earth and its development in Law and Justice." The Royal Ante-Chamber will be hung with panels in carved work, portraits, and tapestry;—the portraits, twenty-eight in number, relating to the Tudor family,—and the tapestry being a copy, as nearly as possible, of the old Armada Hangings, in the House of Lords, originally made for the great Lord Admiral himself. The eighteen compartments in the Royal Gallery will be filled with subjects relating to the military history and glory of this country, from 'Boadicea inciting her Army' to 'The Meeting of Wellington and Blucher at Waterloo.' The Queen's Robing Room, containing compartments of various dimensions, has been given to the legend of King Arthur and the pencil of Mr. Dyce. Arthur has fared indifferently in verse—we hope he will not be equally ill-used in the sister art. The Guard Room will contain 'Young Talbot defending his Father in Battle,' and 'Isabella Douglas barring the Door with her Arm to protect James I. of Scotland';—the Lobby of the Guard Room 'St. Edmund the Martyr slain by the Danes';—and the Norman Porch 'Canute reproving his Courtiers,' and 'Queen Elizabeth on the Sea-side after the Defeat of the Armada.' The Peers' and Commons' Refreshment Rooms are reserved for views of places of chief importance in the United Kingdom, views of remarkable places in India and the Colonial Possessions of the Crown, and subjects connected with rural scenery—the harvest, the chase, &c.; and the Painted Chamber, being the hall of conference between the two Houses, for thirteen subjects having reference to the acquisition of the countries, colonies, and important places constituting the British Empire.

The particular subjects selected will interest even a larger circle than our artistic readers. The side compartments of St. Stephen's Hall will contain,—'A Sitting of the Wittenagemot,'—'The Feudal System. The Homage of the Barons to William the Conqueror,'—'The Origin of the House of Commons. The first writ brought down to the City of London,'—'The Termination of the Baronial Wars. Stanley and Oxford crowning Henry VII. over the dead Body of Richard III.,'—'An early Trial by Jury,'—'The Signing of Magna Charta,'—'The Abolition of Villenage. A Lord, on his Deathbed, attended by the Clergy, manumitting his Villains,'—'The Privileges of the Commons asserted by Sir Thomas More against Cardinal Wolsey.' The end compartments will have:—'The Conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity. The Preaching of St. Augustine,'—'The Reformation. Queen Elizabeth receiving the Bible in Cheap-side.'

The Peers' Corridor will contain:—'Charles I. erecting his Standard at Nottingham,'—'Basing House defended by the Cavaliers against the Parliamentary Army,'—'The Expulsion of the Fellows of a College at Oxford for refusing to sign the Covenant,'—'The Burial of Charles I.,'—Speaker Lenthall asserting the Privileges of the Commons against Charles I., when the attempt was made to seize the Five Members,'—'The Setting-out of the Train Bands from London to raise the Siege of Gloucester,'—'The Embarkation of a Puritan Family for New England,'—'The Parting of Lord and Lady Russell,'—The Commons' Corridor will have:—'Charles II. assisted in his escape by Jane Lane,'—'The Executioner tying Wishart's book round the neck of Montrose,'—'Monk declaring for a Free Parliament,'—'The Landing of Charles II.,'—'Alice Lisle concealing the Fugitives after the Battle of Sedgemoor,'—'The Sleep of

Argyll,'—'The Acquittal of the Seven Bishops,'—'The Lords and Commons presenting the Crown to William and Mary in the Banqueting House.'

The subjects for the Peers' Robing Room are:—1. 'Moses bringing down the Tables of the Law to the Israelites,' 2. 'The Fall of Man,' 3. 'Man's Condemnation to Labour,' 4. 'The Judgment of Solomon,' 5. 'The Visit of the Queen of Sheba,' 6. 'The Building of the Temple,' 7. 'The Judgment of Daniel,' 8. 'Daniel in the Lions' Den,' 9. 'The Vision of Daniel.' The subjects for the Royal Gallery are:—1. 'Boadicea inciting her Army,' 2. 'Alfred in the Camp of the Danes,' 3. 'Brian Boromhe overcoming the Danes at the Bridge of Clontarf,' 4. 'Edith finding the dead Body of Harold,' 5. 'Richard Cœur de Lion coming in sight of the Holy City,' 6. 'Eleanor saving the life of her husband, afterwards Edward I., by sucking the poison from a wound in his arm,' 7. 'Bruce during a retreat before the English protecting a Woman borne on a Litter, and checking the Pursuers,' 8. 'Philip interceding for the Lives of the Citizens of Calais,' 9. 'Edward the Black Prince entering London by the side of King John of France,' 10. 'The Marriage of Henry V. at Troyes with the Princess Katherine of France,' 11. 'Elizabeth at Tilbury,' 12. 'Blake at Tunis,' 13. 'Marlborough at Blenheim,' 14. 'The Death of Wolfe,' 15. 'The Death of Abercrombie,' 16. 'Lord Cornwallis receiving the Sons of Tipposah as Hostages,' 17. 'The Death of Nelson,' 18. 'Waterloo—the Meeting of Wellington and Blucher.' The subjects for the Painted Chamber are:—1. 'The Marriage of Strongbow and Eva, daughter of Dermot, King of Leinster,' 2. 'Edward I. presenting his Infant Son to the Welsh as their Prince,' 3. 'James VI. receiving the News of the Death of Queen Elizabeth,'—or, 'Setting out for England as James I.,' 4. 'Lord Clive in the Battle of Plessey,' 5. 'Penn's Treaty with the American Indians,' 6. 'The Colonization of Australia,' 7. 'The Treaty of Nankin,' 8. & 9. 'Incidents illustrating the Voyages to the North and South Poles,' 10. & 11. 'Incidents relating to the Acquisition of Mauritius and Cape of Good Hope,' 12. 'Sir George Rooke planting the Standard of England on Gibraltar,' 13. 'The Surrender of Malta.'

Such are the subjects: and on the manner of execution the Commissioners observe—"With regard to the technical method in which the paintings proposed should be executed, your Committee, although not prepared to offer a general recommendation on this subject, were of opinion that the pictures in the three corridors leading from the Central Hall, and the pictures in the Refreshment Rooms, should be painted in oil; and that the Queen's Robing Room, St. Stephen's Hall, and the Royal Gallery should be painted in fresco. The representations of the four Patron Saints, from their size and situation, might be advantageously executed in mosaic (like the four Evangelists in the pendentives of the Cupola of St. Peter's), thus giving an opportunity for the introduction into England of an art highly valued in other times and countries."

The Painted Chamber might have been, to our tastes, more appropriately filled. Here, at a conference of both Houses, Waller made his celebrated speech upon delivering the impeachment against Mr. Justice Cawley in the matter of ship-money—here the High Court of Justice sat for the execution of Charles I.—and here Cromwell, it is said, forced Ingoldsby to add his signature and seal to the death warrant of the King. Some of the subjects selected excite a smile. Who can paint Monk, or anybody else, declaring for a free Parliament?—and as for Marlborough at Blenheim, one thinks of Evans's epigram, and his quarrelling with his architect, his workmen, and his wife.

EXHIBITION OF ART-UNION PRIZES.

This collection of pictures selected by the prize-holders among the subscribers to the London Art-Union contains, of course, many of those on which we have already had occasion to deliver our opinion. We confine ourselves, then, to a few remarks on the general character of the Exhibition, the taste manifested in the selections, and the advantages likely to accrue to Art or its professors from the continuance of the system. On glancing round the rooms the eye is first struck by the preponderance of landscape and sea-skip: these supplying the subjects whose

small dimensions and moderate prices have attracted the sympathies of the numerous class of the ten and twenty pound prizeholders. Turning, however, from the mass of these, it is agreeable to notice that in the selection of this year historic art is somewhat represented—by a few of the best pictures of the past season: Mr. Herbert's picture of *Christ subject to his Parents at Nazareth* (No. 77) having been selected as one of the first prizes—and Mr. Elmore's *Invention of the Stocking Loom* (27)—Mr. F. R. Pickersgill's *Christian Church during the Persecutions by the Pagan Emperors of Rome* (110)—Mr. Hook's *Bassanio commenting on the Caskets*—and Mr. Cope's *Girl at Prayer* being all here as evidences of an improving taste. In figure subjects of the life size we have Mr. Hurlestone's *Mountain Picquet* (124), *Sybilla, a Filatrice of Meta in the Sorrentine Peninsula* (150), and Mr. Hart's *Toilet Musings* (190)—of each of which we have already spoken well. Mr. Redgrave's *Deserter's Home* (51) takes the lead in the genre school: and is followed by Mr. Hannah's *Refreshing the Weary* (16), and Mr. T. F. Marshall's *May-day Morning a Century ago* (43)—besides small subjects by Farrier and Clater, &c. In landscape, there are Mr. J. W. Allen's *View of the Vale of Clwyd* (38)—Mr. W. Witherington's *Mid-day Retreat* (81)—Mr. Lee's *Old Avenue* (9)—the same artist's picture of *The Miller's Boat* (70)—Mr. Williams's *Scene on the Cad, Bickley Vale, Devonshire* (17)—Mr. Jutsum's *Clearing Fallen Timber* (48)—and young Mr. Wilson's *Cattle Fording a River* (117). In marine subjects, the elder Mr. Wilson's *Harlech Castle, North Wales* (76)—Mr. Holland's *Herne Bay* (4)—Mr. Hering's *On the Gulf of Spezia* (28)—Mr. A. Clint's *Fishing Boats off Boulogne* (66)—Mr. Montague's *Dutch Passage Boat crossing a River* (114)—Mr. Clint's *Coast of Kent* (118)—Mr. H. Pickersgill, jun.'s *Ferry on the Neva* (136)—and Mr. Tennant's *View of Purfleet from the River Walls* (163) are among the best. Mr. Abraham Cooper's *Slave Dealer* (44) is one of the few pictures here presenting animal forms successfully—and Mr. Josi's *Beagles* (80) is another.

In Sculpture there is a good bas-relief by J. Engel, *The Hours bringing the Horses to the Chariot of Apollo* (119). It is done in the true spirit of the antique—with much feeling—and in very low relief.

Two subjects have been selected which do not appear here—being yet on view in Westminster Hall. Mr. James Eckford Lander's *Wisdom*—purchased for 200*l.*—furnishes another pleasant evidence of healthy taste. To the other, *Elijah in the Wilderness*, by Mr. F. Ifold, we cannot apply the same remark.

Out of more than two hundred and seventy works selected by the prize-holders, we have particularized those of most mark. Two hundred, then, are works of a kind whose existence may be supposed to be due to the demand created by the predominating amount of smaller prizes advertised. In spite of any partial good which the large funds of this society may enable them to do to the cause of the artists, there needs no other argument than the statement of the above fact to prove what must be the result of its general operations upon the tone and character of English Art.

The picture of *Philippa interceding for the Burgers of Calais*, commissioned by the society from the prize cartoon, just finished, is now exhibited with the selected works. The invention and design of the cartoon were so fully commented on at the time of its production as to require here a notice only of the new medium into which it is translated. In its garb of colour, then, it loses much, to our thinking, of that interest which attached to the cartoon. That force and brightness—nay, prettiness of effect—which the drawing had, is to a great extent dissipated. In the conduct of local colour, there is an absence of principle of light and dark which will make the rendering by the engraver a difficult task. In concentration, in emphasis, in subordination, the picture is wanting:—defects the more especially to be regretted as it ought to have been expressly contrived and regulated for reproduction in black and white. As an arrangement of colour it is unsuccessful. Colours enough it has—but no tints. All is garish and obvious. The reds are monotonous and fictitious—the greens alike wanting in truth and perspective gradation—the contrasts and oppositions strong and trite—while in the colour of the flesh a stained and

dirty hue which defeats its homogeneity is the consequence of unsuccessful glazings. The painter betrays want of study of the practice of those great masters in colour whom, at a first glance, his picture would lead the uninformed to believe he had adopted as his models. In the *modus operandi* of the true colourist, even, he has singularly failed. Were we disposed to carry our criticism further, we might point to the entire want of variety even in individual features. Certain parts of the several heads are run upon as might be one particular note in music. This is the mere materialism of the palette.

SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

THE Report of the Special Committee of the Council of the Government School of Design appointed in November last to inquire into the state and management of that institution—and the Report of a Second Committee appointed in June last to consider the recommendations of the first and report thereon to the Board of Trade—are both before us:—and we purpose to redeem our pledge of entering on the important considerations which they involve. Meantime, we may state that the following are some of the recommendations to Government in which the inquiries of the two committees have resulted.—

That each class shall have at its head a professor, with such masters as the Committee of Instruction may think requisite.—That the professors shall, on the first occasion, be appointed by the Board of Trade, and afterwards by the Council, on the recommendation of the Committee of Instruction, subject to the approval of the Board of Trade; and that each master shall be appointed by the Council, on the recommendation of the Committee of Instruction, after consultation with the professor to whose class the master is to be attached.—That each professor shall be solely responsible to the Committee of Instruction for the management and progress of his respective class; shall suspend students if necessary, reporting the same, as soon as conveniently may be, to the Committee of Instruction. He shall also report at least every two months on the state of his class to the Committee of Instruction; and shall attend the meetings of the said committee when required, to give any information relative to his particular class, or to offer any suggestions respecting it.—That the masters in each class shall be responsible, for their attendance and duties, to the professor of the class, subject to the supervision of the Committee of Instruction.—That each professor shall, at least once a week, deliver to the students in his class, collectively, a lecture, or discourse, explanatory of the subjects of study in progress in his class.—That courses of special lectures shall be delivered to the whole school, on Anatomy, Botany, Perspective, and the History, Principles, and Practice of Ornamental Art. The lectures to be specially remunerated, and the lectures, with the periods of their delivery, to be determined upon by the Committee of Instruction. The students of the Female School to attend such lectures as the Committee of Instruction may deem expedient, and to occupy distinct seats to be provided for them.—That the method of teaching in the Female School shall be, as far as possible, assimilated to that of the Head School.—That the Committee of Instruction shall take into immediate consideration the question of establishing elementary schools, and the practicability of relieving the Head Schools of a large number of young students who have not attained a certain degree of knowledge of the principles and practice of drawing.—That there shall be one or more annual public Exhibitions of works of Art produced in the School, to be open in the months of February and July: the prizes to students to be arranged by the Committee of Instruction, in consultation with the professors.—That each professor may prevent any student in his class, whom he believes to be incompetent, from competing for the prizes.—That each professor and master be requested to contribute at least one specimen of ornamental Art to each exhibition.—That a gold medal be offered as an annual prize for some high specimen of ornamental Art; to be open for competition to all students in the Government Schools of Design throughout the country.—That the prizes to the students shall be adjudged by the Committee of Instruction, after consultation with the professors, and that the gold medal shall be adjudged by the Council.—That the method of instruction in the Branch Schools shall be, as far as possible, and as speedily as possible, assimilated to that laid down for the Head School.—That a course of lectures on the history, principles, and practice of ornamental Art shall be delivered at least once a year in each of the Branch Schools, by a competent person, to be appointed by the Council, subject to the approval of the Board of Trade, and to be specially remunerated.—That the masters of the Branch Schools shall, in all possible cases, be taken from among the masters, or the most advanced students, of the Head School.—That the Board of Trade be requested to take into immediate consideration the imperative necessity of affording more efficient accommodation to the Head School of Design, in Somerset House, by providing spacious and well-ventilated apartments for the purposes of instruction; a lecture and exhibition room, sufficient space for the museum and library of reference, and especially a room to be expressly used for the purposes of the modellers.

On these recommendations, as we have said, we shall have some remarks to offer in an early number.—Meanwhile, we regret to hear a report that Mr. Wilson has resigned his situation as Director.

FRESCO PAINTING.

Prof. Fernbach, of Bavaria, has just published some interesting letters on Fresco Painting, and its relations in regard to the durability and permanence of the colours. Prof. Fernbach is of opinion that the term fresco painting is often most erroneously and indiscriminately applied to the large paintings on walls. The fresco-technic is of the most ancient origin. We find traces of it in India; although Egypt is its cradle—and to this day preserves the most colossal remains, Greece left us no historical paintings—consequently no frescos: but we find many grounds, stripes, and simple ornaments in one or more colours, of the monochromatic style, laid on *al fresco*,—though many designated as such are done *a la tempera*. After the conquest and destruction of Corinth and the union of Greece with the Roman empire, this art gradually spread to Italy; but all the works which were then in existence were destroyed. Under the Emperor Constantine, it was carried by Byzantium; where some fine specimens of fresco painting are still extant. At a subsequent period it was again transplanted to Italy; whence it spread, chiefly by means of the convents of Calabria, to France and Germany. The paintings of Italy retained much of the ancient Egyptian and the Etrurian style and manner; and these paintings were executed not in oil nor *al fresco*, but *a la tempera*. Moreover, the ancient mural paintings from Cimabue to Pietro Perugino are not pure frescos; for after the colours had been graven in the dry clay intonaco, they were executed *a la tempera*:—"a treatment," says Prof. Fernbach, "which I have constantly met with." It was not till the time of Perugino, after the art had attained its higher standard and was employed in multifarious ways, that fresco-painting was recalled into life developed and perfected. The colours, when tempered with water or an aqueous medium, manifestly fade,—especially the more delicate ones—except some kinds of red, blue, and yellow which are always prominent in the old paintings. They likewise wear off slightly by time. This paling of the colours must not be overlooked. It is usual to designate as frescos all paintings *a la tempera*—and especially those on which the contours are graven with a pointed instrument; with the remark, however, that "they have been restored or retouched with water colour." The fresco painters of that great period did not confine themselves to one stated mode in the execution of their works; but employed a variety of intonaco or ground-work, as well as different methods of painting on it. This intonaco our author affirms to be of the first importance; and he says that the comparative durability and permanence of the colours can be determined immediately by the intonaco. Thus, the ancient picture of "The Triumph of Death," by Andrea di Cione (Orcagna), at the Campo Santo of Pisa, the picture in the upper loggia of the Vatican by Giovanni da Udine, &c., are executed on lath-work. It may be affirmed as a general truth that the intonaco, or fundamental surface, influences the favourable or detrimental mixture of the colours, their durability, &c.; and the ruinous condition of Correggio's fresco in the Dom at Parma, among others, is entirely attributable to the bad intonaco. After some interesting remarks on the modes of painting, and observations on the opinions of Salt, Belzoni, Champollion and Bruce upon the frescos found in the tombs and mausoleums of Egypt, the Professor goes on to state:—"In a dilapidated building in the southern part of the Tyrol I have made the most important discoveries of frescos and fresco-intonaco—over which the water had been running down from the rocks above for the last ten years. But the paintings are so firmly bound to the brick wall, the colours so firm and in such admirable preservation, that I was unable to detach them except by means of the chisel and the firm strokes of the hammer. The pieces which I thus procured are now in my possession. Further, I have discovered large surfaces of walls—both in the interior and exterior of buildings of the most ancient date—which are so firm, that although I succeeded in introducing the point of a knife, it was impossible to dislodge the smallest atom. Yet more important is the fact that under certain circumstances the walls painted *al fresco* have a polish like marble. At first, I imagined this polish to be artificial; but upon minute investigation I found that it was the combination of pure mortar and the fresco colours."

The King of Bavaria, we may mention, induced by

the important results of the Professor's researches, has sent that gentleman, at his own expense, on a "Tour of Research into Fresco Painting."

FINE ART GOSSIP.—It is with much regret, for Art's sake, that we record the death of one of its most liberal patrons—the late Mr. Wells, of Redleaf, Kent. Many a painter now before the public in the enjoyment of reputation is indebted to this distinguished collector. A writer in the *Daily News* says:—"His house at Redleaf was a kind of sanctuary for Art and home for artists. He was seldom alone; and so great was his love for Art, that he preferred the company of an artist to that of any high born or other educated person. He had not an exclusive taste in Art; but bought of every school—and always took care (so excellent was his taste) to buy what was best. It was not his habit to boast of having a Raphael, a Titian, a Leonardo, or a Correggio; he knew how rare these masters are, and how seldom they are to be had, and therefore he collected what was good in itself, irrespective of a name, though he was not inconsiderable that a good name went a long way, or altogether regardless of having a pedigree to a picture." Mr. Wells is said to have bequeathed to the country his famous picture of 'The Glorification,' by Guido, which he purchased from the late Sir Thomas Lawrence for 1,200 guineas.—The *Standard* adds that the whole of the ancient pictures collected by Mr. Wells, with this exception, are to be sold by auction in the course of the ensuing spring. The modern pictures, amongst which are several by Landseer, Stanfield, Collins, Wilkie, &c., are to remain as heirlooms in the family.—Mr. Wells's great treasure of the English school was Wilkie's famous picture 'Distraining for Rent'; and the well-known canvas containing the three heads of Charles the First by Van Dyck, now in the Van Dyck Room at Windsor Castle, belonged formerly to his collection. He purchased this celebrated work for 1,000 guineas; and was induced, it is stated unwillingly, to cede it to George the Fourth for the same sum.—We may add that a rumour is current in artistic circles that another famous collector and patron of English Art, Mr. Vernon, has given the better and larger portion of his pictures to the National Gallery. This, if true, is a contemporary justly remarks, will be a good beyond the mere accession to the National Art-wealth. It will compel the Government to make room either for the Royal Academy or the National Collection elsewhere than in the present building:—"for at present there is no room to hang any new pictures of pretensions or size; and Mr. Vernon's are, as is well known, both large and important."

With the squabbles and heart-burnings among the parishioners of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, our readers have happily nothing to do; but the desolate condition of one of the finest monuments of our national architecture occasioned by the way in which matters are managed in that parish must attract painfully the attention of all lovers of the Arts—leaving other claims and more important considerations out of the question.—The interior of this fine church presents an appearance of utter neglect and decay. The beautiful cupola, the capitals of the pillars, and the rich entablature are loaded with the accumulated dust of years and stained and disfigured by the effects of damp. The windows are darkened by dirt; and the whole internal aspect of the sacred edifice is cheerless, gloomy, and indecent—a striking memorial of the litigious spirit and bad passions which have so long caused the desecration of the *chef-d'œuvre* of Sir Christopher Wren. It is estimated that a sum of between 2,000*l.* and 3,000*l.* would now be required to complete the restoration and repair of St. Stephen's, Walbrook.

At a recent meeting of the Town Council of Yarmouth, the state of dilapidation into which the basement of Nelson's Monument in that town is falling was brought forward by the Mayor. The Trinity Board, who use the column as a sea-mark, were referred to as beneficially interested in its preservation:—and it was determined that the necessary steps should be taken for securing the repairs demanded.

We have received from Felix Summery an angry letter of remonstrance on the subject of our notice, in last week's paper, of the specimens of Art-manufactures produced "under his superintend-

ence." For "superintendence" we are, it seems, to substitute the word "suggestion"; and instead of Felix Summery doing anything "at the instance of the Society of Arts," "what the Society of Arts is doing is at the instance of Felix Summery." In other respects the letter is the old thing—a complaint that we have not satisfied the writer's appetite for praise. Of such communications we generally take no notice; and we would have taken none in the present instance were it not that we respect Felix Summery's intentions,—and that he seems to think we have not done justice to the objects with which these specimens are produced. If such be the inference of the article, it was not its intention. Felix Summery deserves credit for the attempt to bring Art to the service of our daily life by its application to articles of familiar use:—and the examples already offered are unquestionably an improvement upon the vulgar forms which they are meant to replace. But however meritorious compared against what is bad, they are deficient by comparison with what we hope to see him yet effect: and there was no harm in pointing out certain principles on which, in our opinion, his design was to be successfully carried out—some of which he had himself partially violated, and others are so often violated under similar professions that their assertion here was convenient, and we hope may be useful. Without, then, repeating our warning as to the combination of Fancy and Probability, or that against the lavish use of classic forms in the embellishment of the common-places of modern English life—we will refer to one mistake which, in our opinion, Felix Summery and his artists are in danger of committing. The professed design is, as we have said, to apply Art to the utilities—to bring decoration to the service of our domestic utensils—to make what is convenient also beautiful. In this scheme, then, the utility comes first—the art is subsidiary. If the conveniences be lost sight of, the scheme is reversed—and though things very beautiful in themselves may be produced, it is in a new intention. Now, in the ink-dish produced by Felix Summery,—to say nothing of the vulgarity of form of the cup, the latter is as an ink-cup next to useless. It will hold scarcely more ink than will tip the point of one of Cupid's arrows,—and the quiver at his back will not carry, we should think, speaking from memory, more than one. The number of wafers—if wafers be the intended dolphin-freight—which can be lodged by another of the groups could be considered a convenience only in case it were our duty to count them.—To return to the ink-dish:—we cannot think that a small central group of sculpture presiding solitarily on the margin of that (comparatively) vast basin is according to the true principle of manufacture-illustration. It has the look rather of being "stuck on" than of forming part of a general and harmonious design. Each of these groups of sculpture is graceful in itself: good as Art—bad, we think, as Art-manufacture in the sense here intended. This want of unity in the intention and mere reproduction of classic forms alike bespeak a poverty of invention, that we hope does not rightly characterize the best resources with which Felix Summery has to work for the prosecution of his laudable design.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

A Grand Extra Night and Last Performance of the Season.
ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—The Nobility, Gentry, and the Public are respectfully informed that on TUESDAY, August the 24th, will be performed Mozart's Opera, 'LE NOZZE DI FIGARO.' *Suzanne, Madame Grisi; Le Comte, Mdlle. Stefani; Cherubino, Mdlle. Albini; Marcelina, Mdlle. Bellini; Don Basilio, Signo Lavia; Il Conto, Signor Tamburini; Bartolo, Signor Rovere; Antonio, Signor Polonini; Figaro, Signor Marini.* Also Selections from a favourite Opera. Conductor, M. Costa. To be followed by a new Divertissement; and to conclude with a grand Ballet, in which all the principal artistes will appear, and a numerous Corps de Ballet.

Prices of Admission.—Pit Stalls, 10*s.* 6*d.*; First Amphitheatre Stalls, First Row, 10*s.* 6*d.*; Second and Third Rows, 7*s.*; Second Amphitheatre Stalls, 5*s.*; Pit and First Amphitheatre, 5*s.*; Second Amphitheatre, 3*s.* 6*d.*; Gallery, 2*s.*; Boxes, (for Four Persons only) Third and Fourth Tiers, 1*l.* 1*s.*; Second Tier, 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; First and Pit Tier, 2*s.*; Grand Tier, 3*s.*
Tickets, Stalls, and Boxes to be obtained at the Box Office, (in the Theatre) and at Messrs. Cramer, Beale & Co.'s, 201, Regent-street.
The Doors will be opened at Seven, and the Performance commence at Half-past Seven.
N.B. No Privileged Orders will be admitted, and the Free List will be suspended.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—After having given a month less of Mdlle. Lind to his subscribers than the programme promised,—after having produced her, when she did come, as sparingly for their pleasure as possible,—Mr. Lumley has treated the general public

to extra performances in all of which she has appeared:—these including the only revival of his season having any classical interest. It is simply our place to record the fact:—the subscribers will comment on it at their good pleasure.

To disabuse those who believe all that they read in print, it may be as well to point out that neither the Covent Garden nor the Haymarket cast of 'Le Nozze' in 1847 has been so strong as was the combination of artists when Mozart's work was revived at the latter theatre ten years since,—and Grisi, Persiani, Albertazzi, Tamburini, and Lablache appeared together (as was then the fashion) without the world being called upon to admire the assemblage as unparalleled. As the *Athenæum* remarked at the time, it is not so much the singers as the even and expressive manner of performing the music which constitutes the satisfaction of Mozart's 'Figaro' properly given. For instance, before the last scene of the opera, *Suzanna*—though, virtually its *prima donna*—has hardly one solo passage, however essential the finest skill be to her execution of the concerted pieces: and hence, unless the *Cherubino* happens, like Mdlle. Albini, to be as good a singer as herself, she has been encouraged to lay hands on his romance 'Voi che sapete' by way of securing a morsel of individual display;—her air, when it comes, being too often omitted, owing to its requiring either an exceptional voice or a change of passage. Thus, again, the *aria* of parade given to the *Count*—who is the sentimental male singer of the drama—does not occur till his most important share in the opera (including all the concerted music in the first two acts) is over. Mdlle. Jenny Lind, Herr Staudigl, Signor Coletti and Signor Lablache are brave names to conjure withal; but were they twice as eminent, they cannot enchant us into forgetting that the orchestra of *Her Majesty's Theatre* is now essentially a third-rate one—conducted by a *maestro* who, however clever in his own operas, has never shown cleverness in conducting any operas save his own. The lady, however, is probably the most attractive singer of Mozart's melodies as yet heard in England: her order of voice and taste in expression suit her music far better than modern French or Italian compositions,—which without accent sound unfinished. Herr Staudigl, too, though plagued and astray in his Italian, is more at home in Mozart than in Meyerbeer. Signor Lablache is never from home, whether he has to enact *Bartolo* or *Brabantio*, *Don Pasquale* or *Doge Marino Faliero*. The entire performance was, of course, very successful,—as including not merely Mdlle. Lind's last character, but the best music which she has sung in England.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We learn that Miss Cushman has so far recovered as to be enabled to accept an engagement for the ensuing season at the Princess's Theatre. It is understood that she will perform with Mr. Macready; and the resemblance of their styles, though independently cultivated, will present materials rather for comparison than contrast.

On Monday next, Sadler's Wells Theatre will re-open for the season under the management of Mr. Phelps—with Shakspeare's 'Cymbeline.'

Letters from Berlin convey unfavourable accounts relating to the health of Meyerbeer. Having derived no benefit from Frauzenbrunnen, he had gone to Marienbad—and intended to proceed from thence to the waters of Gastein in the Austrian States.

We observe in the French musical journals of late an increasing tendency to inquire into the results of the systems of vocal instruction sanctioned by government with the intention of popularizing the art. Complaint is made that the proficiency in the colleges and schools of a better class is not so great as might have been expected. The Wilhem method is arraigned as limited, incomplete, &c. &c.; while almost every week some new professor vaunts his patent scheme as infinitely more speedy in its operations, and better calculated to bring about the diffusion of musical taste and knowledge. By those who have interested themselves as much as we have done in the subject these remonstrances and indications are matters not to be passed over;—the more, since the Wilhem method has become "the law of the land" in England also. But a comment or two, also, suggest themselves, which it is fair should be made. Excellent as is the French submissiveness to discipline (amusingly evi-

denced in their school details), we know of no indications among our neighbours which have ever led us to fancy that part-singing was an entertainment congenial to them. To remember an opera chorus (such as the traveller hears shouted by three or four light-hearted *gamins* or *ouvriers* every time he sets foot on the Boulevard of a provincial town) may be, and is, a proof of a lively sympathy with the theatre; but does not establish the existence of a musical taste analogous to that which we find among the provincial oratorio, glee, and catch singers of England, or the *burschen* and professors and merchants and soldiers who combine in the harmony of a German *lieder-klub* society. There is readiness—there is industry; but both, so far as we know the humour of the French, in larger proportions than the sympathy which makes labour enjoyed for the sake of the pleasure lying beyond. This, however, is not the entire matter,—nor the sole cause, possibly, why vocal instruction “as by law ordained” thrives in France less vigorously than its promoters could desire. The Wilhelm method as there administered takes—shall we say?—somewhat merciless advantage of the willingness of our neighbours to be disciplined. Its provisions and subdivisions include a system of monitorial superintendence ingenious and complete,—but, let us also add, somewhat tiresomely superfluous; and which it was necessary to dispense with,—preserving, the while, every precept and progressive step unimpaired—in arranging the method for England. Further, the members of the French “Orphéon” have been too exclusively confined to their class-books; the exercises of which, however well fancied, being selected and calculated for a specific end and purpose, are naturally—nay, necessarily—restricted, and deficient in variety. Here, as we have seen, the interest of the pupils has been kept alive by their having been encouraged to perform complete works; and their general taste and knowledge cultivated proportionally with their technical accomplishments, by their being conducted through a wide range of music, sacred and secular. For every one’s sake, it is advisable to call attention to this solution of a matter more to be regretted than wondered at,—provided the representations of the professors (each of whom has his own better scheme of instruction) be but in part true. The very inquiry, however, argues progress.

MISCELLANEA

Paris Academy of Sciences.—Aug. 9.—Communication was made of the instructions given by the Academy to M. Rochet d’Héricourt for his proposed travels in Abyssinia from north to south.—M. Payen reported on some apparatus for a better regulation of the supply and combustion of gas for lighting, submitted by MM. Pauwels and Mutrel.—M. Andral read a paper on the nature of the liquid secreted by the mucous membrane of the intestines in cases of cholera.

Ore from China.—The vessel Mary Bannatyne, just arrived from Canton, has brought, in addition to a general cargo of merchandise, 50 tons weight of copper ore, the production of the Chinese empire. Should this be the white copper of China, it will prove a novel and interesting importation.—*Daily News.*

Cochin-Chinese Boats.—After the engagements which took place against the Cochin-Chinese, the sailors of the ‘Victorieuse’ perceived several small boats floating about. They were picked up; and found to be formed of thin sheets of copper, without any mixture of wood in their construction. They are to be sent home, and placed in the Naval Museum.—*French paper.*

List of Pensions.—A return obtained on the motion of Mr. Duncombe, exhibits the following names of persons to whom pensions have been granted since the establishment of the separate fund of 1,200*l.*, viz.:—Lady Sydney Morgan, a pension of 300*l.*; Prof. Wallace, 300*l.*; Sarah Mears, 40*l.*; the Gibbons family, 50*l.*; Mrs. M’Arthur, 200*l.*; Lieut.-Col. Gurwood, 200*l.* (fallen in by death); Mrs. Plunkett, 100*l.*; Mary Banim, 40*l.*; Sir J. Newport, Bart., 1,000*l.* (fallen in); the Aldridge family, 25*l.*; Mary Lander, 100*l.*; Dr. Browne, L.L.D., 100*l.*; Rev. H. Barez (Her Majesty’s German tutor), 100*l.*; Signor G. Guazzaroni (Her Majesty’s Italian master), 50*l.*;

Mr. J. B. Sale (Her Majesty’s singing master), 100*l.*; Mr. Steward (Her Majesty’s writing master), 100*l.*; M. Grandineau (Her Majesty’s French master), 100*l.*; Mrs. Lucy Anderson (Her Majesty’s music mistress), 100*l.*; Madame Sarah Bourdin (Her Majesty’s dancing mistress), 100*l.*; Mr. Williams, 20*l.* (fallen in); Mr. T. Walker, 100*l.*; Mr. Morgan, 20*l.*; Mr. P. W. Deane, 100*l.*; the Misses Kennedy, 100*l.*; Mr. George Burgess, 100*l.*; Mr. T. Webster, 50*l.*; Rev. T. Kidd, 100*l.*; Mr. B. Thorpe, 40*l.*; Mr. Snow Harris, 300*l.*; Miss Sophia Wynyard, 200*l.*; Dame Catherine Jeremie, 200*l.*; Dr. Anster, L.L.D., 150*l.*; the Rev. Francis Cary, 200*l.* (fallen in); Mrs. Jones, 100*l.*; Mrs. Clapperton, 50*l.*; the Baroness Lehzen, 400*l.*; the Misses Kennedy, (an additional pension), 200*l.*; the Poet Laureate Wordsworth, 300*l.*; W. Curtis, 100*l.*; Prof. Owen, 200*l.*; Dame Maria Bell, 100*l.*; Miss Drummond, 200*l.*; Mr. Brown, 200*l.*; Dame Florentia Sale, 500*l.*; Sir W. R. Hamilton, Knt., 200*l.*; Mr. Tytler, the historian, 200*l.*; Mrs. Jane Hood, 100*l.*; the four Misses Robertson, 50*l.* each; the two Misses Stoddart, 75*l.* each; Mademoiselle A. E. D’Este, 500*l.*; Clara Maria Susanna Lowe, 50*l.*; Mademoiselle D’Este (additional pension), 500*l.* (so that this lady now enjoys a pension of 1,000*l.* from the public); Dame Shee, 200*l.*; the poet Alfred Tennyson, 200*l.*; Prof. Forbes, 200*l.*; Mrs. Loudon, 100*l.*; the Misses Shee, 200*l.*; the two Misses M’Caskill, 50*l.* each; Catherine Taylor, 50*l.*; Dr. S. Blomfield, D.D., 200*l.*; B. Barton, 100*l.*; Mr. J. R. M’Culloch, 200*l.*; Mary Haydon, 50*l.*; Messrs. Winstanley and Lloyd (for services rendered by their ancestors to Charles II.), 25*l.* each; Mr. Wilderspin, 100*l.*; Mrs. Banim, 50*l.*; Mrs. Turnbull, 50*l.*; and Mrs. Gurwood, 50*l.*—To these have to be added the pensions more recently granted, as reported in our columns.

Supposed Discovery in Westminster Abbey.—In making the alteration now in progress in Westminster Abbey church, the supposed tomb of St. Edward has been discovered—at least such is the opinion of some of the abbey dignitaries. This tomb is situated exactly in the centre of the cross. It is rectangular—eight feet long, east and west—five feet wide, north and south—and two feet three inches deep. The bottom is formed of concrete, the sides and ends of rubbed stone; and it was originally covered with a slab six inches thick,—but the covering disappeared ages ago, and the tomb has remained filled with rubbish. Let no one, however, imagine that this is the original tomb of the Confessor. It is stated by the oldest authorities, quoted by Widmore, that St. Edward was buried beneath the high altar,—that his remains were afterwards removed to a higher place, and then again to another still higher; while no doubt can possibly exist that his dust still reposes in the shrine prepared for it by King Henry III.—*Correspondent of the Builder.*

Walker’s Effluvia Trap.—An apparatus, or, as it is called, a trap, has been registered by Mr. J. Walker, of 48, Shoe Lane, for preventing the effluvia of drains from rising and infecting the air. The inventor obtained the silver medal for his invention from the Society of Arts, and a model of it can be examined at his residence. It is intended to be placed over gratings; and its advantages are that its action cannot be affected by stones or rubbish passing through the grating; that it can scarcely be out of repair; that it cannot be stopped by ice; and that it will prevent the effluvia from the drain as well as from the sewer. There are a chamber or receptacle for water and chains or links, &c., by which the person to whose management it is intrusted can empty it of its contents and restore it to its proper position for acting as required. Now that the health of towns has become so interesting a subject for inquiry, it will be of consequence to investigate the claims of this invention and similar ones to public adoption. It is simple in its construction, and appears very efficacious.—*Times.*

Fossil Remains.—The *Constitutionnel* contains the following letter, dated Dijon, 11th inst., announcing an interesting discovery:—“In the course of raising gravel from the bed of the Saône, the engineer employed discovered a fossil phenomenon of which the gigantic proportions correspond with the antediluvian animals remarked by Cuvier. These fossils consist of the tooth and tusk of an elephant. The latter, which is only a fragment, is 42 feet long and 3 feet

10 inches in diameter. The municipal council of Dijon has claimed those objects for its cabinet of natural history:—but it is still probable that they may be forwarded to the Museum of Natural History in Paris.

American Literature.—The number of public libraries at present existing in the United States is 335—and they contain 2,351,260 volumes. The States of the Union which possess most public libraries are, New York—which has 33, with 174,000 volumes; Pennsylvania 32, with 176,000 volumes; Massachusetts 30, with 203,000 volumes; Ohio 23, with 68,000 volumes; Maryland 11, with 54,000 volumes; and Columbia 9, with 75,600 volumes.

The Menai Bridge.—The enormous bridge which is in course of erection across the Menai Strait has been thus described by a correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*:—“If we suppose ourselves stationed in a boat in the middle of the Menai Strait, a few hundred yards distant from the new bridge on the south side, and suppose it finished, we shall see a wonder of the world of this kind: first, there is the middle pier rising out of the water founded on the Britannia rock, after which the bridge is named. This rock can be seen at low water. The breadth of this pier is 62 feet by 53 feet and a quarter of an inch. The blocks of stone are seven and eight feet long, by three and four feet in breadth and deepness, and they rise, stone upon stone, until the pier is 230 feet high. At the distance of 460 feet on each side of this centre pier there rise, near the water’s edge, two other piers of the same gigantic breadth and height; while on each side of these two piers, at the distance of 250 feet there rise two walls. Continuing outwards, the wall on our right hand, on the Carnarvon shore, does not extend its ponderous bulk far back; for the land is high and bold, and the railway comes along its elevated brow and at once lays hold of the bridge. But on our left hand, which is the Anglesea shore, the wall is the forehead and end of a mighty embankment, on which the railway is raised to the level of the bridge. There, then, are the four spaces before us, across which, in the iron tubes, the railway is laid; namely, two spaces on each side of the centre pier of 460 feet each—(let the reader measure 460 feet on a street or on a road, and he will wonder at the vastness of this structure); and two more spaces of 250 feet respectively, at each end. The tubes are eight in number; each of them 30 feet on the exterior side, and 27 feet high in the interior. Each is 14 feet wide, and they are laid in couples parallel to each other. In the whole, with the breadth of the piers and the landward buildings, the length of the bridge is one-third of a mile. In height the three piers are, as already said, 230 feet. Measuring from low-water mark to the bottom of the tubes, the height is 130 feet, the tubes being 30 feet on the side, and the pier 70 feet above their upper surface. As ornaments to the two walls which rise upon each shore, are four lions, two at each end of the bridge. The lions contain about 8,000 cubic feet of stone. They lie couched; and yet, the height of each is 12 feet; the greatest breadth across the body is 9 feet; the length 25 feet; the breadth of each paw two feet four inches. The tubes are made of plates of iron of various thicknesses, rivetted together. The iron increases in thickness as we proceed towards the centre. The roofs of the tubes are formed of cells, and also the floors. These cells are formed of iron plates set on edge, the cells of the roof being within a fraction of one foot nine inches square, and those of the floor being one foot nine inches wide, and two feet three inches deep. The rails on which the trains run are laid on these cells of the floor. The flat bottom, the two upright sides, and the flat roof of each tube are formed of plates the thinnest of which is a quarter of an inch, and the thickest three quarters of an inch. The weight of each of the four long tubes will be about 1,300 tons; the weight of each of the four short ones about 600 tons. In the whole there will be at least 7,600 tons of iron used. The masonry will cost 200,000*l.* They expect to finish the masonry by August, 1848. It will contain one million and a half of cubic feet of stone.”

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—JUVENIS.—A. C. M.—T. P.—W.—received.

W. H.—Our correspondent is very much—and very worthily—in earnest:—but he has been anticipated.

Preparing for the Press.
THE PHYSICAL HISTORY OF THE EARTH
AND ITS ATMOSPHERE: including the Theory of Climate, of the origin of local and of Meteors, aqueous and igneous. By PROF. J. M. REQUERRE, and EDMOND BEQUERRE. Translated by JAMES QUAIN, M.A., Churchills, Princes-street, Soho.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, Colquhoun-st., Edinburgh; 13, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, Colquhoun-st., Dublin. Established by Act of Parliament in 1834. In 1841, the Company added a bonus of 2 per cent. per annum on the sum assured to all policies of the participating class, from the 1st of January 1842. Parties wishing to secure the benefit of the new division of profits in 1842 should make immediate application. When the insurance is for life, only one-half the Annual Premium is paid for the first five years. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, 2, Lennox Road, Esq., No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London, where Prospectuses, &c. may be had.

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LIFE DEPARTMENT.
SEVENTY PER CENT. of the Profits divided every five years amongst the holders of Policies, and may be applied (at their option) in relation to the future annual premium, or added to the sum assured as a bonus.

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FIFTY PER CENT. of the Profits in this department returned to the holders of Policies of 1000, and upwards, who have paid three annual premiums, containing detailed particulars, may be had (gratis) on application to any of the Company's Agents throughout the United Kingdom; or of

W. HILLMAN, Actuary and Secretary.
UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE, (Fire, Life, & Accidents) Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-st., Dublin; and Explanade, Hamburg; instituted A.D. 1714. **WILLIAM NOTTING, Esq.,** Chairman. **MICHAEL CHAPMAN, Esq.,** Deputy-Chairman. The system of returning profits on Fire Insurances was adopted by the foundation of the Union Society in the year 1714. Life Policies for the whole of life, at the ordinary rates, and the profits added every seven years. Insurances without profits may be effected at rates considerably reduced. Jointed system of Life Insurance in three different modes. Detailed Prospectuses gratis. Agents are wanted in places where none at present are appointed. **THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.**

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The principle of mutual assurance is the most beneficial to the insured, amongst whom the whole net profits are divisible. This society is the only one connected with the medical or legal professions founded on the mutual principle.

ANNUAL PREMIUMS TO ASSURE 1000, AT DEATH, WITH PROFITS.

Age.	Premium.	Age.	Premium.	Age.	Premium.
20	£ 15 0	40	£ 3 12 6	60	£ 8 10 0
30	£ 6 2 6	50	£ 4 7 8	70	£ 13 10 0

Prospectuses, forms of proposal, and every further information will be readily supplied on application either personally or by letter to

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THE GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Established 1837. Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament, 3 Vic. cap. 30, and 10 Vic. cap. 1. 60, King William-street, London; 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh. Capital—One Million.

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TABLE NO. I.
WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.
Premiums for the Assurance of 1000, payable at Death.

Age.	30	40	50	60
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13 0	2 15	3 15	4 11	6 3

TABLE NO. II.
WITH PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

Age.	30	40	50	60
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13 2	3 5	3 7	4 10	6 13

Assurances on Joint Lives and Survivorships. Deferred Annuities, and Endowments for Children, are granted, and Benevolent Life Interests are purchased on liberal terms.

The following are among the distinctive features of the Company.

1. The lowest rate of Premium consistent with security, and the Payment of Policies, guaranteed by a capital of One Million.
2. A Table of Premiums, the one giving to the assured two-thirds of the profits of this department of the Company's business.
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4. Policies in the mutual branch immediately interested in the profits of the Company, and such profits, at the option of the assured, to be received in cash, applied to the reduction of premiums, or added in reversionary value to the sum assured.
5. Premiums may be paid Annually, Half-yearly, or Quarterly, in a limited number of Payments, or in one sum.
6. Every facility given, on moderate terms, to persons going beyond the present limits of the Kingdom.
7. Loans granted on Life Policies which have been five years in force, and have attained the value of 500.
8. No entrance on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the borrower.

ASYLUM FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC LIFE OFFICE, No. 78, Cornhill, established in 1834, for INVALID and HEALTHY LIVES, and for Officers and others travelling or resident abroad.

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Formalities waived, so that in certain cases the ordinary references may be dispensed with, should the Company's medical officer be satisfied without them.

Policies on the lives of others not necessarily void if the assured travel beyond prescribed limits.

Losses on Policies which have acquired a purchasable value. Premiums for the long term of 30 years.

Per cent. $\frac{1}{2}$ ann. 20 18 8 21 6 11 22 18 5 23 18 5

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Four-fifths, or 80 per cent. of the Profits will be assigned to Policies every fifth year, and may be applied to increase the sum insured, to an immediate payment in cash, or to the reduction and ultimate extinction of future premiums, as shown in the following example:

Profits to Policies of 25 years standing, entitled to participate in the Bonus declared in 1846.

Age at Entry.	Sum Insured.	Annual Premium.	Bonus added.	Cash paid surrenderer of Bonus.	Or Premium reduced.	And Annual Return of
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
15	1000	19 5 10	451 5 0	174 13 3	8 6 9	..
30	1000	21 15 10	451 5 0	193 12 2	8 15 0	..
45	1000	26 14 2	451 5 0	226 18 7	7 10 5	..
60	1000	33 19 2	451 5 0	284 9 6	4 9 8	..
75	1000	45 6 8	451 5 0	335 9 11	..	4 19 4
90	1000	63 3 4	451 5 0	384 19 5	..	16 10 6

Insurances without participation in profits effected at reduced rates.

Prospectuses and an explanatory statement of other advantages now given by the Company, may be had of the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, Pall Mall; or of the Agents.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, London. Established 1836.

INVESTED CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

Annual Income, £140,000. Bonus Declared, £520,000.

Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £1,520,000.

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3. Loans are granted upon the Policies issued by this Office, if the Policies are purchased at their full value.

4. If a party neglect to pay for his Policy, he may receive on commission any time within 15 months, upon proof of good health.

Bonuses paid upon Policies which have become Claims.

Life Insured.	Sum Insured.	Sum Paid.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
John Wharton, Esq., Skelton Castle	5,000	7,705 6 0
John Saunders, Esq., Skelton Castle	5,000	7,262 13 3
Sir William Wake, Bart.	5,000	7,500 5 9
Earl Strathmore	5,000	7,128 15 8
Rev. H. W. Champneys, Canterbury	5,000	4,509 1 1
The Marquis of Walsley	2,000	3,411 3 9
Earl Cathcart	1,000	1,822 4 11

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom; and at the Head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

JOHN A. HEAUMONT, Managing Director.

NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY; 4, New Bank-buildings, Lothbury, and 10, Pall Mall East, London.

Established in 1800, and incorporated by Royal Charter.

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The benefits of life assurance are afforded by this Company to their utmost extent, combined with perfect security in a fully subscribed capital of 1,000,000, besides an accumulating premium fund, exceeding 497,000, and a revenue from life premiums alone of more than 106,000, which is annually increasing. Four-fifths of the profits are sent annually divided among the Insurers on the participation scale of premiums. On Insurances for the whole life half the premium may remain on credit for the first seven years.

Tables of increasing rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract:—

Premium to insure 1000, at death.

Age.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	£ 18 10	£ 19 10	£ 21 0	£ 21 10	£ 21 10	£ 18 10
30	£ 13 10	£ 14 10	£ 15 10	£ 16 10	£ 16 10	£ 13 10
40	£ 11 10	£ 12 10	£ 13 10	£ 14 10	£ 14 10	£ 11 10

Prospectuses, with tables of rates, and full particulars, may be obtained of the Secretary, 4, New Bank-buildings, and of the Actuary, John King, Esq., 10, Pall Mall East.

HENRY T. THOMSON, Secretary.

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